



We Salute the Myles Standish Colony for Hosting Our Annual State Meeting

Virginia Bailey
Editor, Standish Scribe

It's time for a tribute to our Myles Standish Colony Governor, Nancy Talleur. The task of hosting the 2008 Annual State meeting fell on her shoulders this year and she did a bang-up job. We had over 75 at the banquet and had up to 50 for lunch the next day. I am sure it was due to her promotion of the event starting in May. It is not as if we are in the middle of the State. People have to plan to get to our special corner of Florida. The speaker David Mitchell was tops, and gave us all the reasons we should be thankful that those Barons many years ago forced some king to sign the Magna Carta. The food, as usual was good and the good cheer among the members was very evident.

Unfortunately, the business meeting on Saturday ran over time and we were unable to install our next Governor properly, but he was very good natured about it and during our lunch, gave us his ideas about where he hopes to lead us in the next three years.

Words from Robert Eugene Burt – Governor 2008-2011

Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants



Thanks to **ALL** for your support. Consider this for 2008 – 2011: **PLEASE – ASPIRE TO INSPIRE BEFORE YOU EXPIRE!** Emphasis will be on the following: **(1) Finances will continue to be strong** with emphasis on building our Trust Fund, we will hear of opportunities for us all, within the next year; **(2) We need some by-law and rules of order changes;** **(3) With your help we need to better educate our school Children about their heritage.** Jean E. Albrecht, Chair of our State Education Committee has tools “The Mayflower and ME K-12 curriculum to help. We will feature this program with junior members at our November 20 – 21, 2009 state meeting in the Villages. Colony chair

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Florida Mayflower Society Trust Fund

The Florida Mayflower Society (FMS) Trust Fund was established in November, 1994, for the purpose of receiving tax deductible gifts such as real property, personal property, commercial property, life estates, bequests, stocks and bonds. These types of donations are much easier to manage in a trust fund than in the operating funds or even the Scholarship Fund. The Trust Fund is especially advantageous for donations of property, stocks or bonds which have appreciated over a year's time, since the gift is not only tax deductible, but a capital gains tax is also avoided, which would be required if the asset were sold.

The basic features of the Trust fund are as follows:

- The sole beneficiary is the operating fund.
- The Fund's principal will not be used or disbursed.
- Interest Accumulated by the Fund will be disbursed to the operating fund once a year.

The Trust Agreement is irrevocable and shall continue in perpetuity. If the Florida Society is dissolved or liquidated, the Trust Fund will be transferred to the General Society.

The Fund is managed by three Trustees who are elected by the Florida Board of Assistants (BOA) for staggered three year terms. Although elected by the BOA, it is the Trustees who are fully responsible for the proper management of the Fund.

In November, 2007 the BOA voted to call the Fund the James Holyfield Endowment Fund, although the wording in the Trust Agreement has not been changed.

The Trust Fund initially enjoyed some success for the first couple of years through cash donations from various colonies and individuals. By the end of 1996 the Trust Fund totaled \$2875. This initial enthusiasm slowly waned and awareness of the fund dimmed. Cash donations, which are not the primary purpose of the fund, shifted in recent years to the Scholarship Fund, which is a valuable and positive initiative of the Florida Society. However, additional contributions and investment gains put the Fund at about \$4,500 in late 2007. With the financial downturn, our investment decreased to a little less than \$3,600 by November,

2008. The Trustees are taking action to move the Fund to a more conservative investment until the financial crisis is resolved.

So what to do at this point? The Trust is irrevocable, so it can't be dissolved. Since it has a valid purpose that no other FSMD fund is equipped to managed, we should not ignore it. In recognition of this situation, the BOA has voted to transfer \$3,000 from excess operating funds to the Trust fund in order to increase the interest that the Fund can earn. Obviously, we need to further increase the Trust Fund to earn a more significant amount of interest in support of the operating funds. The purpose of this article is to revitalize support for the Trust Fund by informing members of the FSMD of the Fund's purpose, history and status. If anyone would like to make a donation now or in the future, or has a question concerning the Trust Fund, you can contact any one of the Trustees listed below. The Trustees are determined to make the FMS Trust Fund a viable and valuable asset of the FSMD.

Ruth Ann Fay, Trustee
rfay4@cfl.rr.com (386) 738-3563

Henry (Hank) Dressell, Trustee and State Treasurer
HDressel@cfl.rr.com (407) 293-4646

Nathan (Nate) Heuberger, Trustee
inuse1956@aol.com (321) 544-0705

A LETTER FROM OUR ELDER, THE REV. DR. ALBERT E. MYERS

The State Society wishes to send a nice personalized certificate in a presentation folder commemorating each member who dies. As Elder, it is my responsibility to send this.

Each Colony in Florida should promptly notify me of the death of a member. I need the dates of death, the General and State membership numbers, the proven Mayflower ancestor(s), the colony name and the name and address of the next of kin to whom I may send the certificate. Requests may be emailed to: albert@onemain.com

Correction to Last Newsletter

Rebecca Lauren Thompson, a 2008 scholarship winner, was sponsored by her Aunt Margaret Eileen Martin of the Edward Winslow Colony.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENT – SPRING BOARD OF ASSISTANTS MEETING

PLACE: EAGLEBROOK GOLF FACILITIES
LAKELAND, FL

DATE AND TIME: APRIL 18, 2009 AT 10:00 AM
Meeting, followed by lunch and program

SPECIAL EVENT – 2009 ANNUAL STATE MEETING

PLACE: WATERFRONT INN
1105 LAKESHORE DRIVE, LAKE SUMTER LANDING
THE VILLAGES, FL 32162
1-800-592-0774
WWW.WATERFRONTINNVILLAGES.COM

DATES: NOVEMBER 20 & 21, 2009

SPECIAL EVENT – 2ND THANKSGIVING ADVENTURE CRUISE

PLACE: LEAVE FT. LAUDERDALE – VISIT PRINCESS CAYS, ST.
MAARTEN, ST. THOMAS, & GRAND TURK ISLANDS

DATES: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2009 TO
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2009

Reservations due by March 15, 2009

David B. Mitchell, Esq., Annual Meeting Banquet Speaker discusses The Magna Charta

On Friday, November 21, 2008, eighty members of the Florida Mayflower Descendants, representing twelve of Florida's colonies, gathered for a banquet at the County Club of Naples as the prelude to the annual meeting. A call to order by State Governor Frances Lopus was followed by an Invocation by Kenneth Carter, State Elder. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and a salute to the Mayflower flag were led by Reynolds Cushing, State Captain. A welcome received from Governor Charlie Crist was read by Margaret Stover, followed by a welcome from Nancy Talleur, Colony governor of the host colony, Myles Standish.

After dinner, General and State Officers were introduced by Fran Lopus, followed by meritorious awards. The Roll Call of Ancestors was conducted by Muriel Cushing, State Historian. The speaker for the evening was David B. Mitchell, Esq. from Miami, who spoke on the Magna Charta. This was followed by a Reading of the Compact and the benediction.

needed, please ask for help; **(4) Juniors** – their membership will continue until they become a senior member - make every effort for their elevation. Why not have the junior members put on a Colony Program? Junior members could write articles for the Pilgrim and Colony chairmen need to promote this; **(5) Our Scholarship program is A PART OF WHAT WE ARE.** Continue Colony contributions, each of us add a caveat to our WILL, a memorial gift honoring loved ones, will enhance our scholarship program. Ask Scholarship winner to write a news article for our Pilgrim, with the state winner's theme published in the Pilgrim. We have one \$1,000.00 Scholarship for 2009. Colony Chairmen needed; **(6) Our Historian** had a special informative workshop on what is new in regards to our **historian responsibility** – another will be held in April, to keep us all up to date on the new fees; **(7) Colony governors and I plus state officers** are in charge of Membership. **Membership will come from our personal efforts of inviting prospects, plus our education programs.** Our Junior Memberships transferring to adult membership is our "in house" recruiting tool Encourage current members to invite family to become members for a special occasion, like a birthday, etc.; **(8) Our semi-annual Pilgrim** will be posted through email for those who have email. Share your email address with Nancy Fodi at nancyfodi22@embarqmail.com, Others will receive it via regular mail; **(9) We have a Publicity Chair.** Don Winslow of Lakeland will continue in that role and he will have a special guest at Eaglebrook at our April 18 meeting in regards to publicity; and **(10) Kenneth Burt**, keeper of our membership roster needs **your** help in updating info provided for you at the last state meeting in Naples. His email is kennethburt@aol.com. PLEASE HELP.

"I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. Mayflower folks love the human touch – holding hands, a warm hug or just a friendly pat on the back". We will see you in April or before. With a little work we will accomplish most of the above and have fun with our **GOD** given heritage.

My current email address is rootssar@bellsouth.net. Telephone: (305) 451-4894. Address: 219 Allen Ave., Key Largo, FL 33037-2615. **LET THE JOURNEY BEGIN!**


Robert E. Burt, Governor

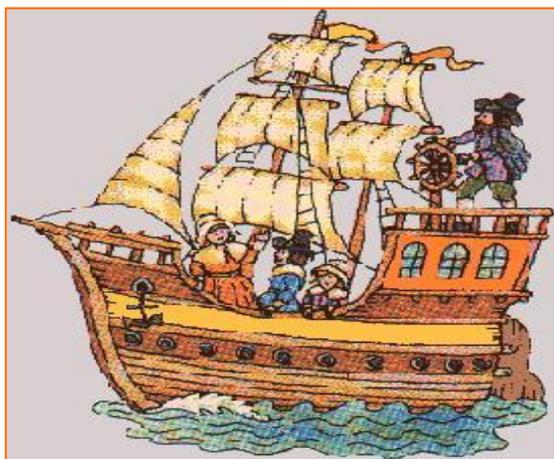
FLORIDA STATE OFFICERS 2008-2011

CONTACT	TITLE	E-MAIL OR PHONE
George M. Allerton	Deputy Gov. General	gma4@bellsouth.net
Frances J. Lopus	Assistant General	franlopus@juno.com
Robert (Robbie) Burt	Governor	rootssar@bellsouth.net
Reynolds P (Ren) Cushing	Deputy Governor	renmur605@comcast.net
Jessie Brabham	Secretary	fishb32615@aol.com
Henry (Hank) Dressel	Treasurer	hdressel@cfl.rr.com
Muriel Curtis Cushing	Historian	flash1620@comcast.net
Kenneth Carter	Captain	kekmcarter@comcast.net
Albert Myers	Elder	albert@onemain.com
Edward Delano Sullivan	Counselor	sullivan7@webtv.net
Laura Brock	Director	mayflowersharpe@ij.net
Nathan Heuberger	Director	Inuse1956@aol.com
Jean Harden	Director	fullercolonyfl@verizon.net

APPOINTED OFFICERS

CONTACT	TITLE	E-MAIL OR PHONE
Jean Harden	Bylaws	fullercolonyfl@verizon.net
James W Preston	Junior Chairperson	james628@aol.com
Muriel Curtis Cushing	Membership	flash1620@comcast.net
Nancy Fodi	Newsletter	nancyfodi22@embarqmail.com
Edward Delano Sullivan	Parliamentarian	sullivan7@webtv.net
Don Winslow	Public Relations	DWinsgolf@aol.com
Kenneth Burt	Membership Database Manager	kennethburt@aol.com
Nancy Talleur	Florida Mayflower on line	nancy@naples.net
Laura Brock	Scholarship	mayflowersharpe@ij.net
Ren & Muriel Cushing	Florida Web Page	flash1620@comcast.net

***AHOY PILGRIMS! WE'RE READY TO SET SAIL
ON A NEW THANKSGIVING ADVENTURE CRUISE***



**JOIN YOUR FLORIDA MAYFLOWER COUSINS
FOR A WEEK AT SEA ABOARD THE BEAUTIFUL NEW**

“EMERALD PRINCESS”



www.princess.com

Sunday, 22 November 2009

To

Sunday, 29 November 2009

The newest jewel in the Princess crown, Emerald Princess is everything you would expect from such a modern, luxurious cruise ship. As with most of our ships, the theme is choices. There are multiple dining options, including Traditional and Anytime Dining and specialty venues like the popular Sabatini's Italian restaurant. There is the Lotus Spa with its myriad treatments, and the Lotus Fitness Center where you can stay trim from all the delicious cuisine. You'll enjoy watching Movies Under the Stars, and will have nearly 900 balcony staterooms from which to choose.



Sailing from Fort Lauderdale we will take our special voyage together to visit Princess Cays, St. Maarten, St. Thomas and Grand Turk Islands.

[Further details on www.geocities.com/flmayflower](http://www.geocities.com/flmayflower)

Emerald Princess Pricing Breakdown:

PLEASE NOTE THAT OCEAN VIEW CABINS ARE OBSTRUCTED - NO AVAILABILITY OTHERWISE!

All Deposits must be made directly to Cruise Planners by March 15, 2009 - with full legal names and birthdates

<u>Qty of Cabins</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Pricing</u>	<u>Deposit Amount</u>
7	Inside J	\$819	\$149 per person
4	Inside JJ	\$829	\$150 per person
3	Inside I	\$839	\$153 per person
1	Inside II	\$849	\$155 per person
5	Ocean View F	\$909	167 per person
1	Ocean View D	\$979	\$181 per person
9	Balcony BD	\$1139	\$213 per person
2	Balcony BC	\$1179	\$221 per person

Amenities:

\$25 Onboard credit per stateroom

Cocktail Party

Additional travel arrangements:

Transfers \$28 pp roundtrip (if needed)

Hotel (pre or post Ft. Lauderdale)

\$119 Renaissance Hotel (plus tax)

\$139 Embassy Suites (plus tax) both first come first serve basis – Book early!

PLEASE NOTE: THE CRUISE ALSO BENEFITS THE FLORIDA SOCIETY – FOR EVERY 8 CABINS, THE SOCIETY RECEIVES REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE EQUIVALENT OF ONE CABIN. IN THE PAST, WE ADDED ABOUT \$500 TO THE TREASURY. WE WILL BE INVITING OTHER STATE SOCIETIES TO JOIN US.

Cruise Planners-Wendy and Mark Cushing

Toll Free# 888-802-0750

Email: wcushing@cruiseplanners.com

Http://www.LifeisGoodGoCruising.com

EDWARD FULLER COLONY CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY



L-R: Edward Fuller Colony Governor, Jean Harden, Florida State Governor Fran Lopus, Edward Fuller Colony Governor Elect Blythe Thomas

The Edward Fuller Colony, Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants, celebrated their 40th Anniversary, with a luncheon meeting, Saturday, October 4, 2008. Colony Governor, **Jean Harden** introduced Florida Governor **Fran Lopus** who spoke on the history of the Florida Society.

Other guests were Florida Historian **Muriel Cushing** and Florida Captain **Reynolds Cushing**.

Members were presented with the 40 year history of the colony researched and compiled by Colony Governor Jean Harden.

The Edward Fuller Colony, organized in Lakeland in 1968, was named for the Mayflower ancestor of organizing governor **Lois Fuller Vetter Harris**. Colony members have proven descent from Mayflower passengers who landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620. Education and historical preservation are primary objects of the society.

The Mayflower Compact was written and signed by the men while still aboard the ship. John Carver was elected governor, America's first democratic election of a leader. John Quincy Adams described **The Mayflower Compact** as "the first example in modern times of a social compact or system of government instituted by voluntary agreement conformable to the laws of nature, by men of equal rights and about to establish their community in a new country."

Governor Lopus conducted the installation ceremony for the 2009 Edward Fuller Colony officers: Colony Governor **Blythe Thomas**, Vice Governor **James Preston**, Secretary **Jean Harden**, Treasurer **Lorraine Hooser**, Historian and Registrar **Margaret Wheaton**, Elder **Audrey Wittholz**, Captain **Virginia Heller**.

Note from Editor: COLONIES – please send news of your happenings for publication to nancyfodi22@embarqmail.com. We want to hear from you and see you in print!



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants

November 21 and 22, 2009 Naples, FL



Myles Standish Governor Nancy Talleur welcomes FSMD guests to the Friday night banquet at the Country Club of Naples.



Ellen Full is selling raffle tickets for beautiful gift baskets and received \$216 for the scholarship fund.



Florida Society Governor Fran Lopus conducts the Saturday business meeting.



Robert E. Burt and Officers for 2008-2011 are installed by Margaret Stover and Fran Lopus on Saturday morning following the business meeting.

MINUTES OF THE 2008 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

71ST ANNUAL MEETING OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP: The Annual Business Meeting was called to order by Governor Frances Lopus at 9:30 AM with 36 present. The Invocation was given by Kenneth Carter, State Elder. The Pledge of Allegiance and salute to the Mayflower flag was led by State Captain Reynolds Cushing. Kenneth Carter, State Elder, called the names and colonies of the thirty-three members who died since our last memorial in 2007. White carnations were arranged in a vase by Nancy Talleur, Myles Standish Colony Governor and Jean Albrecht, Past Governor of Chilton Colony, as the names were called and a bell was rung. Members of the colony of the deceased stood in honor. It was announced that centenarians will no longer be honored by the General Society, instead they should be recognized by the State Secretary. A short discussion on the possibility of establishing a Member Emeritus classification for the elderly was held. The matter was tabled until our April meeting for further consideration.

State Secretary Sheila See called the roll call of officers. Nine of our thirteen elected officers were present. Six of our twelve appointed officers were present. Eleven of our fifteen colonies were represented. It was suggested that colonies might want to think about providing a stipend to cover some of the expense of attending State meetings. It was voted to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the last State Meeting, since they had been published and mailed to all board members. It was voted to accept them as printed. The Secretary reported on the activities of the Board of Assistants Meeting earlier in the morning.

REPORTS OF ELECTED OFFICERS: Frances Lopus, in her capacity as Assistant General, reported on the General Congress in Plymouth in September. It was reported that there were 27,250 members in our society. There were 303 delegates, including the 24 from Florida. **STATE GOVERNOR** Frances Lopus thanked all for their support during her term of office and mentioned what a wonderful experience it all has been. **DEPUTY GOVERNOR** Robert E. Burt thanked those who had made Scholarship contributions and mentioned the three 2008 Scholarship winners: Laura Miller (Richard Warren Colony), Rebecca Thompson (Wm. Mullins Colony), and April Pearson (Isaac Allerton Colony). Applications for the 2009-2011 scholarships should be sent to Laura Brock, our new Scholarship Chairman. **STATE TREASURER** Susan Shannon distributed a financial report showing the total value of \$76,568.91 of all accounts of the Florida Mayflower Society. A list of funds was distributed. The report was accepted. **STATE HISTORIAN** Muriel Cushing reported a total of 81 new members during 2008, and that there were 162 papers processed. **STATE ELDER** Kenneth Carter noted that we have lost 33 members this past year and that the families of these members received Memoriam Certificates. **STATE JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN** Sandra Kennerson reported that there are 912 Junior Members in Florida and are representative of all fifteen colonies. Over the past three years (2005-2008) 184 Juniors were added, while 115 became of age and were dropped from the roll. Florida won first place at the Triennial Congress for having the most Junior members enrolled (81) during the past year. A certificate and a \$300 award were received by our state. New and more attractive Junior certificates are now available. Anyone wanting to replace an existing certificate can do so for \$5.00 by contacting the State Junior Chairman. Jean Albrecht, being the new Education Chairman, spoke on her 15 minute presentation for elementary schoolchildren – plus a DVD for children, which relates the Pilgrim story from the perspective of the ship. Nancy Fodi (Myles Standish Colony) has been named the new Pilgrim Newsletter Editor. News or articles of interest should be e-mailed to her at Nancyfodi22@embarqmail.com

NEW BUSINESS: CHANGES TO THE STANDING RULES: Voted upon and approved. #8 Will now read: "Fund for the Deputy Governor General to attend General Society meetings shall be six hundred dollars annually." (Formerly five hundred dollars). #9 will now read: "Fund for the Assistant General to attend General Society meetings shall be six hundred dollars annually." (Formerly five hundred dollars). #10 Will now read: "Effective on January 1, 2009, the fee to be paid with the preliminary or supplementary application for membership shall be \$115." (Formerly \$50). (The remainder of the rule, concerning the Junior Membership fee, will be further considered at the next Board of Advisors meeting in the spring.) #14 Will now read: "Registration fee of four dollars (\$4) shall be charged to all members of the Florida Society attending the annual meeting and/or the annual banquet when reservation is made."

PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES:

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP – SECTION 5: (Concerning Junior Membership) Any changes on this article were tabled until the BOA Meeting in April 2009. A study panel consisting of James Preston, Sandra Kennerson,

and Muriel Cushing was appointed to report on this article at the BOA Meeting.

ARTICLE VI- ASSISTANTS AND COMMITTEES: Section 2: It was voted upon and approved to delete the word 'Americanism' and insert the word 'Scholarship'. The Article will now read: "The Standing Committee to be appointed by the Governor shall include: Membership, Finance, Public Relations, Education, Junior Members, Bylaws, Scholarship, and others deemed necessary. They shall meet at the call of their chairpeople to perform such duties as are given to them by the Governor and will report their progress at all stated meetings."

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Nate Heuberger reported on the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee, along with the State Treasurer, was instructed to develop financial guidelines and report to the Board of Directors at the April BOA Meeting.

COLONY REPORTS RECEIVED: BRADFORD COLONY Governor Laura Brock reported on their activity this year which included a program on flags. Their Colony approved a \$500 scholarship this year.

BREWSTER COLONY Governor Clara Waterman Powell advised that their colony met four times this year with luncheon meetings. A variety of programs were presented. They now have 76 members.

CHILTON COLONY Governor Jean Albrecht reported that they met three times this year, with programs. As an Education program they arranged to meet at the Lady Lake Elementary School with 150 children in attendance, where three Chilton members spoke on the Pilgrims and the Mayflower's trip to the new world. Governor Albrecht extended an invitation to the members of the Florida Society to hold the 2009 Fall State Meeting at The Villages on November 20-21, 2009.

COOKE COLONY report was presented by Governor Kathryn Thomas. She reported on the variety of programs held this year and advised that her colony has donated books to the Southeast Volusia County Genealogical Library. This colony has also attended other heritage society meetings in a show of support.

DOTY COLONY was represented by past Colony Governor Robert Bothfeld. The report was received from the present Colony Governor Bunny Halligan and listed their meetings of this year and programs presented. This colony has 40 members and 35 juniors.

FULLER COLONY Governor Jean Harden reported that this colony met four times this past year with luncheon meetings and programs. They have a total of 47 members and 20 Juniors. In October they celebrated their 40th Anniversary and copies of the colony history were provided to the Lakeland City Library. Mayflower brochures were placed in Polk County Historical and Genealogical Library in Bartow.

HOWLAND COLONY Governor Hank Dressel advised that this colony met four times this past year with luncheon meetings and programs. They have a total of 84 members and 49 Juniors.

MULLINS COLONY Governor Dr. William Hopkins reported on their three yearly meetings and programs. They have a membership of 88, 2 dual members and 31 Junior members. Their Silver Books project for the Gainesville and Ocala libraries is still in progress.

STANDISH COLONY Governor Nancy Talleur reported on this colony's activities this year, holding luncheon meetings with programs. An on-going project is providing Silver Books to both the Naples Library and the Fort Myers Library. In order to keep them current, both libraries have been placed on an automatic renewal system from Plymouth. A \$100 donation to the State Scholarship fund was made to honor our member and State Governor Frances Lopus. They have launched a Colony on-line store, Mayflower Apparel, the URL is <http://mayflowerapparel.promoshop.com>

TILLEY COLONY Governor Harold Crapo, Jr. reported that this colony has contributed \$100 to Jeremy Bangs' Plaque Project. A \$2000 scholarship was granted to a student in the Venice area. A donation of \$250 was received from John Smith, past Historian, for the Tilley Scholarship fund. Their ship's store is still active as a money project.

WINSLOW COLONY Governor Dorislynn White-Padgett reported they have 43 members and 25 Juniors. They meet with luncheon meetings and a program. The Winslow Colony gives an annual presentation to the students at North Florida Christian School on the history of the Mayflower. Once again, they will sponsor an essay contest with monetary prizes.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF STATE OFFICERS: Former State Governor Bonnie Stover presided over the Installation ceremony of: Governor Robert Burt of Brewster Colony

Deputy Governor Reynolds P. Cushing of Tilley Colony

Secretary Jessie Brabham of Mullins Colony

Treasurer Henry Dressel of Howland Colony

Historian Muriel Cushing of Tilley Colony

Elder The Rev. Dr. Albert E. Myers of Standish Colony

Counselor Edward Sullivan of Alden Colony

Captain Kenneth E. Carter of Chilton Colony

Directors Laura Brock of Bradford Colony, Jean Harden of Fuller Colony, and Nathan Heuberger of Howland Colony.

COURTESY RESOLUTIONS were read by Ren Cushing with thanks and appreciation to the Myles Standish Colony for their hospitality and arrangements, with a special thanks to Colony Governor Nancy Talleur for a job well done. A thank you was also directed to the Country Club and the Hampton Inn of Naples. The Benediction was given by Rev. Dr. Albert Myers and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Sheila Burke See, Secretary
Approved by: Frances J. Lopus, Governor

Governor Robbie Burt Addresses Saturday Luncheon



Newly installed Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants Governor Robbie Burt shares his thoughts and plans for the coming year with attendees at the Saturday luncheon, November 22, 2008. Seated in the foreground are Edith Sachs, past Myles Standish Colony Governor, and Nelson Kennerson, member of the Myles Standish Colony.

Words of Appreciation from Muriel Cushing, Florida State Historian

I would like to thank the colony historians for all of their hard work and dedication during this past month when they have been diligently trying to meet the deadline with the price increase and yet still have time to enjoy the holiday season. We have already sent about 40 applications to Plymouth and collected about \$3,000 during the month of December and more are expected before December 31. It is important that colonies appreciate all the work done by the colony historians. I call them our “ambassadors.”



**THIRTY-EIGHTH GENERAL CONGRESS OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER
DESCENDANTS HELD IN PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS SEPTEMBER 5-11, 2008**

Early registration on Friday and Saturday enabled members to visit the Mayflower library and House Museum and to sign up for the Sunday Church Service and "haunted" Lantern Tours. There was a book sale at the Library and a couple of noontime "Brown Bag Lectures" were presented at Pilgrim Hall.

Saturday Coach tours of Boston's South Shore and a tour of Cape Cod were enjoyed by many of the visiting members from out of state. At one o'clock there was a free DNA and Genealogy Seminar. This is a first time the Society has extended an invitation to the public and offered an educational program. The speaker was Darren Marin from Texas who is employed by Family Tree DNA and it is the lab being used by the Mayflower DNA project. The Seminar was a great success with standing room only and it is hoped other educational programs will be offered at future Congress meetings.

As noted in the June 2008 Mayflower Quarterly (p.115) members and guests had the opportunity to view an exhibit of Pilgrim souvenirs and memorabilia donated by Robert and Joan Pekowsky. A viewing and silent auction of "The Pekowsky Collection" was held on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. A live auction was held at the end of the second business section on Monday. It was reported that the Society realized about a \$4,000 profit and one mural that sold at auction for approx. \$650 was later determined to be valued at \$3,000. The Society expressed its gratitude to the Wisconsin couple Robert and Joan Pekowsky for their generous donation.

Members took the opportunity to visit the Plimoth Plantation and to see other sights around Plymouth and the neighboring towns. Other tours were arranged on Monday and Tuesday for guests and members who were not Delegates and required to attend the sessions of Congress in order to vote on the important issues.

On Sunday, an 8 o'clock Church Service in the Fort Meeting house at Plimoth Plantation began the first recognized day of the 38th Congress. Sunday was when most members picked up their credentials and signed up for Pilgrim's Progress. The Progress started from the Mayflower Society House Museum to Cole's Hill for a wreath laying service and the reading of the names of the 51 Mayflower passengers who died the first winter. The procession then continued on to the Church of the Pilgrimage for opening ceremonies.



Later that afternoon a reception line of the General Officers of the Mayflower Society welcomed Delegates and Registered Guests. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres were served in a tent set up in the garden of the Mayflower Society House Museum. This gave all a chance to make new friends and renew old acquaintances.

The Florida Society welcomed 24 Florida Delegates, 10 other guests and friends at a Sunday evening dinner at Isaac's restaurant on the Plymouth waterfront. A delicious meal with views of Plymouth Harbor and the Mayflower were enjoyed by all. Our thanks to our state Governor Frances Lopus for making the arrangements, in order that we could enjoy visiting with our Florida friends.



The first session of Congress, Governor General Edward Delano Sullivan presiding, began on Monday morning with reports of the General Officers, Committee Chairs and Appointed Officers. Registration for the 38th Congress was announced as a total of 683 which included Delegates, guests and other members. 49 societies were said to be represented.

GSMD Historian Ann Lainhart reported 4,522 new members and 1,729 supplementals had been approved during her three years in office. She explained that 49 applications and 24 supplementals had been rejected. A present total of 27, 250 GSMD members.

Reports were given from the state societies during the afternoon and new business-amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws as proposed in the June 2008 Mayflower Quarterly - were discussed and voted on by the Delegates.

- 🏆 It was voted to leave the ruling that expulsion of members should remain at the State's level.
- 🏆 It was voted to increase application and supplemental fees to \$75 as of 1 January 2009.
- 🏆 It was voted the General Board of Assistants meetings may be held in any location.
- 🏆 The projected future problem of applications and supplementals from non-traditional families was tabled and sent to committee for further study and guidelines. A committee was announced to evaluate and make suggestions in regard to embryos from other parties and the challenges to medical technology.

The third and fourth sessions were held on Tuesday with the completion of new business, the election and installation of new officers. The new GSMD officers are as follows:

- Governor General.....Judith H. Swan - California & Canada
- Assistant Governor General....Harry P. Folger 3rd - New Jersey
- Secretary General.....Barbara H. Carpenter - District of Columbia
- Treasurer General.....Carroll R. Goslee - Kentucky

Historian General.....Paul S. Bumpus - Maine & Hawaii
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Members at Large.....Lea F. Felson - Louisiana
.....Benjamin G. Proctor Jr. - Maryland
.....Priscilla Usher - Rhode Island

At six o'clock we boarded buses (Ren counted seven) that took us to the General Society Banquet held at the Holiday Inn in Taunton. Everyone sparkled in evening attire as we listened to the speaker Nathaniel Philbrook, author of "Mayflower" and other historical books. For the first time there were several tables exclusive for the state historians and their spouses. This was well received and enabled the state historians to acquaint names and faces with their Email contacts.

Wednesday most of the members were heading for home. Some stayed to attend more meetings or to take advantage of the tours available and see more of the Plymouth area. This is a meeting that should not be missed!

WOMEN OF THE MAYFLOWER PROJECT

Our new Governor General Judith Swan has proposed a new project called *Women of the Mayflower*. There will be a more detailed description in the next MQ so be sure to read the article. The concept is to have members write in to tell of their famous lady ancestors. The lady must be a descendant of a Mayflower passenger. For example: Anna Mary Robertson (Grandma Moses) and Laura Ingalls Wilder (author) who will be featured at some time. We are excited about this project and hope to hear many interesting stories from our members. If you have a famous lady ancestor – please contact Muriel Curtis Cushing flash1620@comcast.net.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Help us save postage and printing costs! Let me know if you are willing to receive the newsletter by email. My email is nancyfodi22@embarqmail.com. Also, let me know what you would like to see in our newsletter. We are here to serve you! Thank you, Nancy Fodi, Editor

Please be sure to let Kenneth Burt know of address and email changes ASAP so that we can be sure everyone receives the newsletter and other emails. Ken's email is in this newsletter.

Nancy Fodi, Editor
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