

The Florida Pilgrim

Newsletter of the
Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the State of Florida

Chartered 31 July 1937
75th Anniversary 31 July 2012

The Mayflower
by Dr. Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs
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Leiden, Netherlands
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Richard S. Wheeler, Editor

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

"... as one small candle may light a thousand, so the light kindled here has shown unto many, yea in some sort to our whole nation ..." - William Bradford



In Governor Bradford's journal to his descendants, he wrote of "one small candle" lighting "a thousand" more. Just what do you think Bradford had in mind?

One definition of light is something that makes things visible: we "see the light." It is both obvious and mysterious. We catch glimpses of its nature when a sunbeam angles through a dust-filled room or when a rainbow appears after a storm. As a verb, light is defined as "to ignite" or to brighten with animation: "she lights up a room." As an adjective, we use light to mean not serious or easily endured: "light-hearted" comes to mind. As an adverb, it means not heavy or with little baggage: "he travels light."

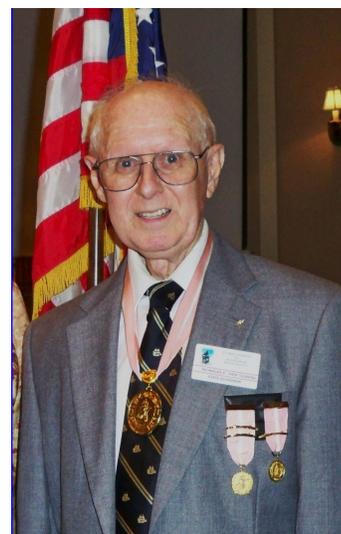
As one candle may light a thousand, so may the light from that candle brighten and inspire us all. May William Bradford's words ignite the memories of our forefather's sacrifices, their disappointments and ordeals, and their unforgettable vision of a free and bright new world.

What message shall we leave for our descendants??

"One candle's light" is the theme of the Mayflower Banquet at this year's annual meeting in Jacksonville on Nov. 16th. I promise you it will be a moving and inspirational event, one you won't want to miss. There's more information and a registration form later in this newsletter. Please come join us on this once-in-a-lifetime occasion.

Ren Cushing

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Governor Reynolds P. Cushing

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SUPPLEMENTALS

Karen Stanford Sheffield	71675/3931	Stephen Hopkins	Winslow
Karen Stanford Sheffield	71675/3931	Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins	Winslow
Claudia Doddington	83149/4738	William Mullins	Mullins
Elizabeth Werner	84071/4799	George Soule	Bradford
Nancy Caldwell	77482/4314	John Alden	Allerton
Marion Manson Pinney Chase	75756/4820	William Bradford	Bradford
Lois Norris	80806/4560	William Bradford	Howland
Muriel Robertson	73757/4058	William Brewster	Alden

REINSTATEMENTS

Robert Arthur Haas M.D.	Cape Coral	53628/1988	John Alden	Standish
Mark Stuart Chamberlain	Reston, VA	56982/3044	William Bradford	Tilley
Joyce Ann Wright Parker	Lakeland	71688/4085	Richard Warren	Fuller
	(dropped in error)			

TRANSFERS OUT

Richmond Perley	Transfer to MA	73069/4023	John Alden	Standish
Thomas Alfred Gibson Jr.	Transfer to VA	73276/4034	John Alden	Tilley
Mark Stuart Chamberlain	Transfer to DC	56982/3044	William Bradford	Tilley
Frank Isaac Lailor	Transfer to ME	73299/4094	John Alden	Tilley

RESIGNED IN GOOD STANDING

Marion Irene Webster	54551/2902	John Howland	Bradford
Melissa Virginia Beninghof	81824/4645	Francis Cooke	Fuller
Sarah Madeline Beninghof	81823/4644	Francis Cooke	Fuller
William Joseph Beninghof III	80537/4539	Francis Cooke	Fuller

IN MEMORIAM



For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten
Son, that whosoever believeth
in him should not perish, but
have everlasting life.

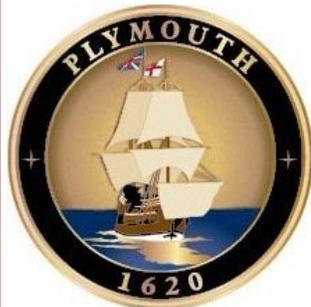
John 3:16

Name	Date of Death	General/FL #	Ancestor	Colony
Dorothy A. White	7 Apr 2012	42741/2156	Bradford	Bradford
Kenneth B. Mason Jr.	19 Apr 2012	77952/4349	Brewster	Warren
Beverly Johnson Wesling	14 May 2012	65752/3524	Hopkins	Chilton
Everette Clifton Doten	23 Apr 2011	39615/1092	Doty	Bradford
Engel Lester Jaillet Jr.	25 May 2012	43543/2204	Rogers	Howland
Ruby Curry Kirkland	19 Aug 2012	67355/3620	Warren	Tilley
Wilbur Gerald Grippen	7 Jun 2012	66316/3558	E. Fuller	Howland
Robert C. Hawkes	15 July 2012	37312/2731	Allerton	Warren
Col. Raymond Shepley Sr.	3 July 2012	35497/852	White	Allerton
Nancy Sanford Myers	29 Aug 2012	48532/2515	Howland	Allerton

MAYFLOWER CRUISE RETURNS NEXT APRIL

In cooperation with Cruise Planners, the Florida Mayflower Society is again offering a relaxing vacation opportunity to its members and friends ... a 7 day cruise aboard Royal Caribbean's newly refurbished Freedom of the Seas. Departing Port Canaveral on April 14th, the ship will call at Royal Caribbean's private resort at Labadee in Haiti, then at Falmouth in Jamaica, George Town in Grand Cayman, and at Cozumel before returning to Port Canaveral. When built in 2006, Freedom of the Seas became the largest passenger ship (by gross tonnage) in the world, taking that honor from Cunard's Queen Mary 2. It was completely refurbished in 2011. For more details, there's a flyer posted at our website (www.flmayflower.com) under "Calendar of Events" or contact Wendy Cushing of Cruise Planners by calling her at (888) 802-0750 or emailing her at wcushing@cruiseplanners.com. Come cruising! It's fun and relaxing.





FLORIDA SOCIETY CELEBRATES 75th ANNIVERSARY OF ITS CHARTER WITH LIMITED EDITION COMMEMORATIVE COIN



The Florida Society was chartered 31 July 1937 as the 28th state society organized under the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (“GSMD”) and, thus, observed its 75th birthday this summer. To honor and memorialize this once-in-a-lifetime special occasion, the Florida Society’s Board of Assistants commissioned SymbolArts of Ogden, Utah, to mint a limited edition commemorative coin. Details for ordering

are given below.

According to the history published by GSMD in 1999, attempts to organize a state society in Florida began in 1933 but were postponed because of the Great Depression gripping the country at the time. Spearheading the organizing efforts were Mrs. Harold C. R. Wall of Miami, GSMD Secretary General Harold G. Murray, and Edward B. Alling, a member of the Massachusetts Society and President of First State Bank in DeLand. Early in 1937, a solicitation went out to 40 Mayflower descendants living in Florida to sign a petition for a state society charter and 24 qualified signatures were obtained. Mrs. Wall declined the honor of being the official sponsor, stating it was her firm belief that the sponsor should be a man, so Mr. Alling accepted that role. Mrs. Wall did receive the honor of being assigned membership number FL #1.

The charter was granted 31 July 1937 with 24 charter members, 9 of whom were new members of the General Society and 15 of whom were members of sister state societies. The organizational meeting was held a week later on 7 Aug 1937 at the “Perrydell” in Rio Vista overlooking the Halifax River north of Daytona Beach.

[Editor’s Note: I had always assumed, reading this history, that “Perrydell” was the name of the home of one of the charter members, but in the 1930s there was a Perrydell Hotel overlooking the Halifax River between Holly Hill and Ormond Beach. This was almost certainly the site of our organizational meeting.]

GSMD Governor General Burnham Standish Colburn (and NC #1) presided at this meeting until the election of the charter officers, after which he presented the Florida Society’s charter to its newly elected Governor Edward B. Alling. Eighteen members were present of whom 11 were charter members. The initiation fee was set at \$5, annual dues were \$3 and life memberships cost \$50.

“From humble beginnings with just 24 charter members, the Florida Society has grown over the past 75 years into one of the largest Mayflower state societies,” observed FSMD Governor Reynolds P. Cushing. “We now have 1297 members in 16 colonies spread from Miami to Pensacola. Each of us is justifiably proud of our ancestry from one or more of the brave Pilgrims who sailed on the *Mayflower*. We as a state society can be equally proud of the many dedicated men and women who’ve gone before us and contributed their time and talents to make the Florida Society what it is today. Owning and carrying one of these commemorative coins is a way in which Florida Society members can show their pride.”

SymbolArts is recognized as the premier company minting jewelry-quality badges, insignia, coins and collectables for public safety, law enforcement, military and private corporate customers. Its products have been used in the commemoration of events such as the Utah, Wisconsin, Ohio, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Kansas and Arkansas statehood celebrations as well as the Salt Lake City 2002 Olympic Winter Games, and scores of smaller county and city commemorations. The use of “challenge” coins dates back to World War I (go to <http://www.symbolarts.com/custom-products/challenge-coins/> to read the fascinating story of their origin). SymbolArts’ coins are of the highest quality and are custom-made to our own specifications, die-struck in solid brass, highly polished with fine detail and vivid colors. Owning and carrying such a coin promotes identification and pride of affiliation of a member with the issuing organization, as well as reinforcing the core values of that organization.

The obverse of the Florida Society’s 75th anniversary commemorative coin depicts the Mayflower and the year 1620 when the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth. The reverse designates the year 2012 as the 75th anniversary of the Florida Society’s founding.

Available on a first-come-first-served basis, the Florida Society’s remarkable commemorative coin is offered to members for only \$10 each, plus \$2 shipping and handling. To place your order, go to our website www.flmayflower.com and fill out the online order form or contact our state Captain, James W. Preston, at james628@aol.com. Supplies are limited for this valued keepsake so order NOW to secure your piece of our Florida Society’s cherished history. A handsome cherry wood display box is also available for \$5 from Symbol Arts: go to www.symbolarts.com for order information. Coins will also be offered for sale at \$10 at this year’s annual meeting Nov. 16-17th in Jacksonville.





2012 FLORIDA SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP WINNER: KATHLEEN ANNE BISSELL OF HAWAII

The Florida Society is pleased to announce that the winner of its \$1,500 scholarship for 2012 is Kathleen Anne Bissell of Princeville, HI. Kathleen's sponsoring relative is her grandmother, Ruth Bissell, of the Francis Cooke Colony.

Kathleen has lived in Hawaii most of her life but will be returning to the mainland for college. Columbia University in Chicago is a possibility but she does have other choices. She has a 3.5 GPA and has been on the high honor roll for all four high school years, and a member of the National Honor Society for the past two. Her letters of recommendation certainly show that her teachers expect great artistic expression from her. Her essay also gave us a glimpse into this very talented and exploring young lady. Kathleen has a real love for animals, volunteering at the local Humane Society since the 10th grade. During her second trimester this past year, she served as a teacher's aide for a preschool class.

It is such a pleasure to see the excellent students who vie for our state scholarship.

Laura Sharpe Brock
Scholarship Chair

MY LIFE AS A MAYFLOWER DESCENDANT

by
Kathleen Anne Bissell

In 1620, nearly 400 years ago, the first Pilgrims made the perilous voyage to America on the Mayflower. These brave people who risked their lives for their ideals and freedom are the people that I am proud to call my ancestors. Although I learned about the Mayflower in school as a child, it is my grandmother who made me truly appreciate my heritage and all that the Pilgrims accomplished. Her teachings helped instill in me many of the same values as my ancestors, the Mayflower Pilgrims, including a strong work ethic and great sense of patriotism.

I feel I embody the work ethic of my ancestors because my parents raised me to be a hard worker and to take my schoolwork seriously. I am very goal-oriented and always strive to achieve my goals. In the same way that my ancestors braved the seas to reach America, I have always worked to overcome any challenges in my way.

Growing up, I experienced a sense of pride when studying American history or when people would speak about their heritage. It made me feel good to be able to say that my ancestors came to America on the Mayflower and to have a bloodline directly linked to a group with great historic significance. Knowing my heritage and knowing that my ancestors helped found the nation I live in has greatly contributed to my sense of patriotism. As a child, my love for my country made me proud to stand up and say the pledge in the morning. In middle school I felt such sadness for the victims of 9/11 that I cried on the anniversary of the attacks. Today I still carry this patriotism and am eager to vote for the first time.

I feel that being a Mayflower descendant has helped give me the strength to pursue my interest. There are many people who are born naturally talented and gifted in certain areas. This, however, is not true for me. I feel that everything I am good at I have achieved through pure hard work. I have always appreciated arts and as a result that is the directed that I have poured most of my energy and effort into. I am a big participator in my high school chorus, and a member of an after school choral group called the Island School Singers. To help further my skills as an artist I attended a pre-college summer program at School of Art Institute in Chicago where I received four college credits. I have been accepted into five highly respected art colleges and plan to attend one in the fall of 2012.

Learning, experiencing and understanding other cultures is something that I have always been passionate about and for this reason I plan to study abroad during college. In high school I was fortunate to travel to China with my class, host a German exchange student and then visit her in the summer and travel throughout the United States with my family. This passion also extends into spreading education, helping the less fortunate and world affairs. I am currently working on my senior project, which deals with the topic of women's education and the possible effect of education on peace and peacemaking. I would like to continue my education and eventually make a successful career for myself as an artist and find a way to help the less fortunate at the same time. I feel that without my Mayflower heritage I would not be the person I am today.

DOTY COLONY



(L to R): Patricia Crumly, Nancy Englander, Barbara Page, Dorothy Heideman, Ellen Addison, George Igo

On Thursday 5 Mar 2012 all Pensacola lineage society members were invited to a Farewell Coffee to honor past Edward Doty Colony governor Nancy Englander. The event was hosted in the home of current colony governor Patricia Crumly and representatives from other societies assisted. We are losing a true treasure but wish her well on her new adventure. Nancy was colony governor from 2002-2005 and Bob Bothfeld from 2005-2008.



past Doty Colony governors Nancy Englander and Bob Bothfeld

SAMSON COLONY

On Wednesday 25 Apr 2012, 25 members and guests of the Henry Samson Colony met at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fort Myers to hear Dr. Patrick Bottiger (photo at left), Assistant Professor of History at Florida Gulf Coast University, give an illustrated talk on the interaction between Native Americans and the Pilgrims after their arrival at Plymouth in December 1620.



Dr. Bottiger's educational focus is on American Indian culture. In his presentation he described how Squanto could be thought of both as a friend and an enemy of the Pilgrims. In his explanation, Dr. Bottiger told of specific instances where the political and psychological interplay between Squanto, Massasoit, and the Pilgrims complicated the relationship between those parties. The professor also described how Squanto's death is surrounded in mystery, with speculation over whether he died of smallpox or was

ultimately "done in" by one of his enemies. A lively question and answer session followed the talk.

Colony vice governor Ellen Full was instrumental in recruiting Dr. Bottiger to appear, and everyone in attendance enjoyed the presentation. Ellen also talked about her work with the junior members.

Member Julia Monastero (in photo at left with colony governor Clyde Blanchard) displayed a colony picture-book that she has begun keeping and the Samson Colony members were delighted with her efforts and enthusiasm.



colony vice governor Ellen Full

State Governor Ren Cushing and wife, Muriel, state historian, were in attendance. Ren expressed his appreciation that the Samson Colony will be inviting officers and members of the colonies from around the state to its January 19th colony meeting in Fort Myers, where newly-installed GSMD Governor General Bruce MacGunnigle will be the featured speaker. See invitation on pg 7, below.



Bruce Campbell MacGunnigle
32nd Governor General of GSMD

The Officers and Board of Assistants of the Henry Samson Colony of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida cordially invite you & your guests to join in welcoming

Bruce Campbell MacGunnigle

Governor General

General Society of Mayflower Descendants

on his first official visit to Florida.

Winter 2013 membership meeting of Henry Samson Colony

Saturday, January 19, 2013 at 11:30 a.m.

(location to be announced)

Ft. Myers, Florida

Please RSVP by December 19, 2012 to

Patricia Myers, Colony Treasurer

Phone: 239-481-7539

Email: patricia33908@gmail.com

Editor's Note: Bruce has been a Mayflower member for 40 years, joining the Rhode Island Society at age 24, the first in his family to do so. He is a descendant of Elder William Brewster, James Chilton, Francis Cooke, Edward Fuller, Stephen Hopkins, Thomas Rogers and Richard Warren. He was elected governor of the Rhode Island Society at age 39, becoming the youngest governor in that state society's history. He has served as Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee, Captain General, Assistant Governor General and now Governor General

– more General Society offices than any other member in GSMD's 115 year history. Bruce also served as Congress Planning Chairman for four General Congresses and is the author of *Mayflower Families, Volume 4 – Edward Fuller*.

ALDEN COLONY

The Spring membership meeting and luncheon of the John Alden Colony of Fort Lauderdale was held Saturday 28 Apr 2012 at the Fort Lauderdale Country Club in Plantation, FL, with 21 members, prospective members and guests in attendance. The meeting was called to order at noon by colony governor Alexandra Harris and the invocation was offered by elder William Wilson. Colony captain Frank Davis led the pledge of allegiance to the US flag. Governor Harris circulated a card for all to sign congratulating colony member John Shaw and his wife Georgia on their 75th wedding anniversary on May 8th. Alex also read the history of the John Alden Colony from *The History of the Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants 1937-1999* by past FSMD Governor Betty Styer.

Historian Sherman Bishop reported that the colony has 51 active members, of whom 11 are Life Members, and 5 prospective members working on their applications, 3 of whom were present. Junior Membership Committee Chair William Wilson reported that we have 55 Junior Members.

Debbie Duay informed all present that Nora Quinlan of the Alvin Sherman Library at Nova Southeastern University is hosting a genealogy fair on campus on Saturday 11 Nov 2012.

The featured speaker for the meeting was Valerie Kooyker from the Ft. Lauderdale Historical Society, dressed as Ivy Stranahan would have in the late 1800s. She gave a delightful presentation of stories and pictures of early Ft. Lauderdale and its founders, including the Seminoles, Edwin King (first builder), Henry Flagler (railroad magnate), Ivy Julia Cromartie (first teacher), William Lauderdale (stockade for fighting the Seminoles) and Frank Stranahan (trading post). The meeting concluded with a reading of The Mayflower Compact by colony captain Frank Davis.



Seated L to R: historian Sherman Bishop and secretary Katie Bechert. Standing L to R: captain Frank Davis, Ted Duay, governor Alexandra Harris, Melissa Battiato, Ellen Kirby, vice governor Judy McCollum, guest speaker Valerie Kooyker, Cheryl Leech and elder William Wilson. Present at the meeting but missing from this photo was director Joy Perry.

WARREN COLONY



The Richard Warren Colony had its regular Spring membership meeting on Saturday 5 May 2012 at the San Jose Country Club in Jacksonville with 21 members, prospective members and guests present. The guest speaker was Fay Alexander of Gainesville, author of *One Candle's Light*, a historically accurate but fictionalized account of the Pilgrims before, during and after their "weighty voyage" aboard the Mayflower. In the photo at left, deputy colony governor Jon H. Wheeler displays the certificate of appreciation presented to Fay for her appearance and informative talk. She was also given a silver GSMD bookmark as a small token of the colony's appreciation. Excerpts of her book were also read, to the delight of all.

ALDEN COLONY: SHAWS CELEBRATE 75TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The Florida Society is not the only one celebrating a 75th anniversary this year ... Alden Colony member John Shaw and his wife Georgia were married 8 May 1937 after graduating from Oberlin College in Ohio. John was from nearby Elyria, OH, and Georgia came from Westfield, NJ, where they were married. Later they lived in CT, New York City, Long Island and Upstate NY before moving to Florida. They have two sons, John Jr. and Steven, both lawyers.

Genealogy was a hobby of John's father, but oddly it is through his mother that John is descended from Mayflower passengers Richard Warren, Isaac Allerton and John Howland. When the Shaws lived in Naples, John joined the Myles Standish Colony in 1977 along with his sister, Peg Sandrock. John transferred to John Alden Colony when he and Georgia moved to the Fort Lauderdale area in 1991. John served as governor of Alden Colony from 2005-2008. They live in Covenant Village in Plantation.

The Florida Society's BOA and Alden Colony's members each recognized this truly special occasion by sending the Shaws congratulatory cards. All Florida Society members join in sending our very best wishes!



Georgia & John Shaw

TILLEY COLONY

The Elizabeth Tilley Colony met on Saturday 12 May 2012 at Lakewood Ranch Holiday Inn in Sarasota; 43 members were present.

Colony governor John Mange highlighted the life of William Brewster as there were more of Brewster's descendants present at the previous colony meeting in March. The colony agreed that at each colony meeting the Mayflower passenger with the most descendants would be acknowledged in the following meeting. John Alden will be discussed at the November 2012 meeting.

The featured speaker was colony vice governor Larry Peck who presented a program on the history of Plymouth, MA, and its growth into Massachusetts Bay Colony. History of the Separatists and their difficulties were featured.

The next colony meeting is scheduled for Saturday 10 Nov 2012 at Jacaranda Country Club in Venice, FL. The programs for the Elizabeth Tilley Colony are presented by members who wish to share the history of an ancestor who came to Plymouth in the formative years.

The program for the 10 Nov 2012 meeting will be presented by colony secretary Sheryl Spain who will speak about her ancestor, Rev. Steven Bachiler.

Sheryl Spain, Secretary
Elizabeth Tilley Colony



BOARD OF ASSISTANTS - 21 APRIL 2012 MEETING

Complete minutes of the BOA's April 21st meeting are posted on the Society's website: go to www.flmayflower.com and click on the "News & Events" link to review the actions taken by the BOA in managing your Society's affairs.

See also pg. 12, below, for a description of the BOA's action dealing with the distribution of *The Florida Pilgrim*.

THE FLORIDA MAYFLOWER SOCIETY TRUST FUND a/k/a JAMES HOLYFIELD ENDOWMENT FUND

The Florida Mayflower Society Trust Fund (the "Trust Fund") was established in Nov. 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 fund or even the Scholarship Fund. The Trust Fund is especially advantageous for donations of property, stocks or bonds which have appreciated over time since the gift is not only tax deductible according to IRS regulations, but capital gains tax, which would be required if the asset were sold, is avoided.

The basic features of the Trust Fund are as follows:

- The sole beneficiary is the Florida Mayflower Society operating fund.
- The Trust Fund's principal will not be used or disbursed.
- Interest and dividends accumulated by the Trust Fund will be disbursed to the operating fund annually.

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 of Mayflower Descendants.

The Trust Fund is managed by three Trustees who are elected by the Florida Board of Assistants (the "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 Trust Fund.

In Nov. 2007 the BOA voted to call the Trust Fund the James Holyfield Endowment Fund although the actual name in the Trust Agreement, Florida Mayflower Society Trust Fund, 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 Trust 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 Trust Fund at about \$4500 in late 2007. With the financial downturn in 2008 our investments decreased to a little less than \$3600 by Nov. 2008. The Trustees took action to move the Trust Fund to a more conservative investment due to the financial crisis.



NY Stock Exchange on Wall Street in New York City

The Trustees are now moving back into the market. The purpose of this article is to revitalize support for the Trust Fund by informing all FSMD members of its 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 Trust Fund a viable and valuable asset of the Florida Society.

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

Henry (Hank) Dressel, Trustee and FSMD State Treasurer - hdressel@att.net - (407) 293-4646

Nathan (Nate) Heuberger, Trustee - InUse1956@aol.com - (321) 544-0705

**2012 ANNUAL MEETING - MAYFLOWER BANQUET
FEATURED SPEAKER IS AGG LEA SINCLAIR FILSON**

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Florida Society's founding in 1937 as the 28th state society under the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Your state officers and Board of Assistants, with the help of the Richard Warren Colony in Jacksonville, is planning a special gala affair to mark this milestone.

"From humble beginnings with just 24 charter members, the Florida Society has grown over the past 75 years into one of the largest Mayflower state societies," observed FSMD Governor Reynolds P. Cushing. "We now have 1297 members in 16 colonies spread from Miami to Pensacola. Each of us is justifiably proud of our ancestry from one or more of the brave Pilgrims who sailed on the Mayflower. We as a state society can be equally proud of the many dedicated men and women who've gone before us and contributed their time and talents to make the Florida Society what it is today."



AGG Lea Sinclair Filson

One former Florida Society governor (1993-1996), Col. Edward Delano Sullivan, Esq. of the John Alden Colony in Fort Lauderdale, went on to serve as Counsellor General (2002-2005) and Governor General (2005-2008) of the General Society. Hundreds of other Florida Society members have served in leadership roles at the colony, state and national levels. Special recognition is planned as a part of the traditional Friday night Mayflower Banquet on 16 Nov 2012.

"We're pleased and honored to have an outstanding guest speaker for our Friday night celebration," Governor Cushing announced, "General Society Assistant Governor General Lea Sinclair Filson of New Orleans."

Lea is the owner of LEAF Communications. After more than twenty years as a journalist in radio, television, and print, she created a consulting company specializing in media marketing and public relations. She also works as a field producer for the ABC, CBS and NBC networks and numerous cable channels, including HGTV and Food Network. She was elected AGG at the 39th Triennial Congress last September in Plymouth after having served as member-at-large on the General Society's Executive Committee for the prior 6 years and also as chair of the General Society's Insignia and Website Committees, two positions she continues to ably fill in addition to her AGG duties.

"We have some new features planned for this year's Mayflower Banquet," Governor Ren Cushing said, "such as 'The Trooping of the Colors' by the state and colony governors and captains. Also in keeping with the banquet's theme of 'One Candle's Light' [see Governor's Message on pg. 1, above] we'll have a 'Passing of the Flame' ceremony. We're hoping one or both become new traditions for all Florida Society annual meetings."

Richard S. Wheeler, colony governor of the host Richard Warren Colony, added: "The Warren Colony members have some surprises up our sleeves, too, most of which we're going to keep secret until members register on Friday afternoon. I'll divulge just one ... each Mayflower member who registers for the meeting will receive a handsome and reusable Florida Society tote bag filled with lots of goodies. It's sturdy and the perfect size for hauling groceries home from the store or towels and sunscreen to the beach."

A registration form for the 2012 Annual Meeting is on pg. 11, below.

The deadline for submitting meeting registrations and making hotel reservations is October 26th, so make yours today!!!

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime celebration," Governor Cushing noted, "one not to be missed."

Mayflower Tote 6-12

White Imprint
5" X 6.4"

75th Anniversary
1937-> 2012
Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the State of Florida



ALL members, their children & grandchildren (whether already junior members or not), spouses, partners and guests are cordially invited to attend the



75th Diamond Anniversary Annual Meeting of

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida

hosted by the Richard Warren Colony

November 16-17, 2012

Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk, 1515 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32207

MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

(deadline for receipt of meeting registration is Friday October 26, 2012)

MEMBER NAME _____ GUEST NAME(S) _____
(print clearly as these are the names that will be used on the meeting identification badges)

STREET _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE (_____) _____ EMAIL _____

COLONY NAME _____ TITLE (if an officer) _____

<><> every effort has been made to keep this year's prices below last year's <><>

Friday 16 Nov 2012: 6-10pm

Social Hour (6-7pm): cash bar with a string trio playing soft Baroque music during social hour & dinner \$ 0.00

Mayflower Banquet (7-10pm): \$41.75 per person x _____ people = \$ _____

Traditional Thanksgiving Feast: Waldorf Salad, baked Honey Glazed Ham with caramelized sweet red onion marmalade, roasted Tom Turkey, candied sweet potatoes, garlic basil mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables, rolls or bread & butter, coffee or iced tea, & traditional pie (choice of pumpkin or apple) with fresh whipped cream and Mayflower cake for dessert.

Those with special dietary requirements PLEASE SEND THAT INFO TO GEORGE LOCKHART PRIOR TO 26 OCT 2012
ANYONE WISHING TO WEAR TRADITIONAL MAYFLOWER ATTIRE DURING THE BANQUET IS ENCOURAGED TO DO SO

Special Guest Speaker: [LEA SINCLAIR FILSON](#), Assistant Governor General, General Society of Mayflower Descendants

Saturday 17 Nov 2012: 800am-noon

BOA & General Membership Meeting (complimentary refreshments) \$ 0.00

Non-Refundable Registration Fee for each adult member & guest \$4.00 (\$4 x _____ =) \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (if registering more than one person, you may write one check for the grand total) \$ _____

This registration form with a check payable to "Richard Warren Colony FSMD" should be mailed to George A. Lockhart, Colony Treasurer, 5018 Rivebrook Ct., Jacksonville, FL 32277-1041, so he receives it before Friday October 26, 2012.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

(advance registration required; book before 26 Oct 2012 to get the preferential group rate)

Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk

1515 Prudential Drive

Jacksonville, FL 32207

Phone: (904) 396-5100

Website: www.wyndhamjacksonville.com

Self parking \$0/day; valet parking \$6/day

Discounted room rates are as follows:

Standard guestroom (1 King or 2 Queen beds) \$ 75.00

Deluxe riverview guestroom \$ 85.00

Junior Suite \$105.00

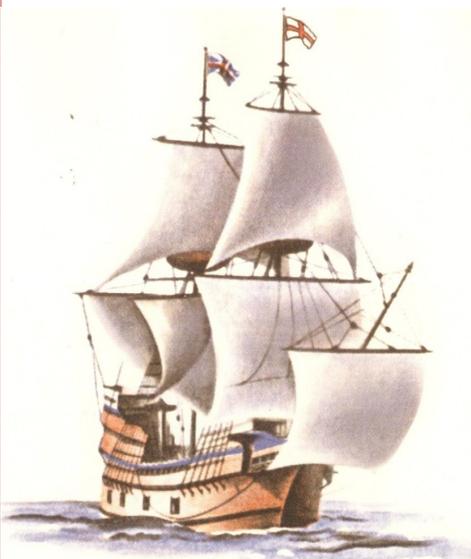
Major Suite \$275.00

Duval County Occupancy Tax is 13%

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida
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BOA APPROVES CHANGES AFFECTING *THE FLORIDA PILGRIM*

At its 21 April 2012 meeting, the BOA approved your Editor's proposal that, as an experiment in increased member communications and environmental consciousness, the *Pilgrim* be published three (3) times a year (i.e., a "spring" issue in May 2012, a "fall" issue in October 2012, and a "winter" issue in December 2012) instead of twice a year (i.e., January and July) as in the recent past. This will permit: (1) a more prompt reporting in the new "winter" issue on each November's annual meeting and the numerous colony meetings held in September-December each year (as was already done in the Winter 2011-2012 issue distributed last December); (2) full coverage in the new "spring" issue of colony meetings held between January-April each year (as was done in the Spring 2012 issue distributed last May); and (3) a new "fall" issue devoted to news of the FSMD scholarship winner, the upcoming annual meeting, and any Compact Day observances in our colonies.

For budgetary reasons, increasing from 2 to 3 issues a year is not economically feasible unless we change the manner of distribution of the *Pilgrim*. For the Summer 2011 and Winter 2011-2012 issues, 85% of our members received a printed copy by mail. Ever-escalating printing and postage costs will "break the bank" on the *Pilgrim's* budget unless we reduce this 85% to 50% or below. If only 50% of our members get a printed copy by mail, we can publish 3 issues a year for less than what's already budgeted for 2 issues. For the Spring 2012 issue, 57% of our members received a hard copy by mail while 43% received it online or in a pdf file enclosed with an email. As you can see, we've taken great strides to meet our goal but we need to continue to encourage ALL members having email to provide their addresses.

Under the plan approved by the BOA, we will post the next 3 issues of the *Pilgrim* on the "Newsletters" page of the Florida Society's website, www.flmayflower.com, where it can be viewed in full color and downloaded onto your own computer, smart phone, iPad or Kindle-type device. Those members who've already opted for "online" distribution will receive an email notice that each new *Pilgrim* issue has been posted. Those members who've already opted for "email" distribution will receive an email with a pdf file containing each new issue of the *Pilgrim*. Those members for whom we have email addresses but who have not previously opted for "online" or "email" distribution will not receive a printed copy by mail of the next 3 issues but will receive an email notice and pdf copy unless they affirmatively take action to notify the Editor that they wish to continue receiving a printed copy by mail. Member understanding and support are essential for this experiment to work.



The *Florida Pilgrim* is the official newsletter and the copyrighted property (© 2012 — all rights reserved) of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida, an unincorporated voluntary membership organization recognized by the IRS as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) educational organization. It is published three times a year in May, October and December. Please send submissions, comments or suggestions to the Editor at the above postal or email address. Items submitted for publication may be shortened or otherwise edited and published at the discretion of the Editor. Photos should be in jpg format, be taken using the *highest* resolution setting on your camera, and be accompanied by identification of all persons depicted so an appropriate caption can be included. Sister Mayflower societies have permission to reprint any material with appropriate attribution. All others must obtain prior written permission from the Editor.