



The Florida Pilgrim

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

Chartered 31 July 1937
75th Anniversary 1937 - 2012

The Mayflower
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Leiden, Netherlands
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Vol. 37 No. 3 - Winter 2012

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

"One candle's light," taken from Bradford's famous quote, was the theme of the 75th anniversary annual meeting of the Florida Society held Nov. 16-17th in Jacksonville. I'd like to share with each of you my appreciation of and admiration for the Warren Colony's hard work, their responsive help and cheerfulness, and the smooth execution of the celebration. I am truly grateful and thank all of you who participated in making our 75th anniversary such a great success.



Former GSMD Governor General Ed Sullivan (at podium) and FSMD Governor Ren Cushing (left center) lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the US Flag at the opening of the Mayflower Banquet

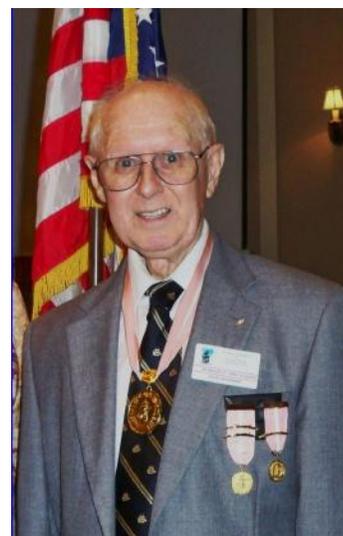
lamps of civil and religious liberty lighted by the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock." As we approach a new year, let us keep the light held high, ready to hand to the next generation, to uphold the beliefs of our Pilgrim ancestors, to carry forward -- one step at a time.

I believe that God has give us a candle to light the way — one step at a time — knowing that a brighter light would show the whole path in front of us. If we knew all that lay ahead, we might become discouraged and feel we could not go on. We wonder, if our forefathers had known in advance of the dangers and personal hardships they would have to endure, would they have begun their long and arduous journey? But, as God intended, they moved forward with their beliefs — one step at a time.

Our Pilgrim Pledge begins: "In the name of God Amen. I pledge myself to hold aloft the Pilgrim Pledge begins: "In the name of God Amen. I pledge myself to hold aloft the

Ren Cushing

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Governor Reynolds P. Cushing

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"All persons over eighteen years of age who are descended from a passenger on the Mayflower on the voyage which terminated at Plymouth, New England, in December 1620, shall be eligible for membership." Article III, Section 1, FSM D By-Laws

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES
(from 1 Sept 2012 through 30 Nov 2012)

NEW MEMBERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Gen/FL #s</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>	<u>Colony</u>
Robert William Geary	Altamonte Springs	84817/4856	William Brewster	Howland
Raymond Laverne Thompson	Palm Coast	84818/4857	John Alden	Cooke
Lois Marie Brown Flynn	Myakka	84819/4858	John Alden	Tilley
Maxine Elizabeth Parish Rattrie	Fleming Island	84832/4859	Francis Cooke	Warren
Sherrie Anne Reese Wagner	Ocoee	84833/4860	William Bradford	Winslow
Peter Michael Tavares	Pensacola	84906/4861	Francis Cooke	Doty
Nelda Blanche Tyre Wagner	Ocala	84907/4862	Degory Priest	Mullins
Mary Ellen Jensen Boyd	Ponte Vedra	69662/4863	William Brewster	Warren
(transfer in from CO; dual with MA)				
Brian Richardson Robinson Voge	Ocala	84911/4864	Degory Priest	Mullins
Eric Alan Fisher	Flagler Beach	84912/4865	John Alden	Cooke
Brenda Miles Perry	Palm Coast	84913/4866	Degory Priest	Cooke
Robin Lee Zabel	Palm Coast	84930/4867	John Alden	Warren
Mary Elizabeth Daschke Gill Lyle	Lauderdale by the Sea	85105/4877	Stephen Hopkins	Alden
William Thomas Nottingham	Clifton Park, NY	85106/4878	Richard Warren	Alden
Arden Mays Merckle Jr.	Plant City	85049/4868	George Soule	Bradford
Diane Claire Kingery Gentsch	Lakewood Ranch	85050/4869	John Alden	Tilley
David Lance Freeman	St. Augustine	76291/4870	Edward Fuller	Warren
(transfer in from ME)				
Susan Kathryn Flynn	Myakka City	85083/4871	John Alden	Tilley
Margaret Louise Wenzel	Brooksville	85084/4872	Francis Cooke	Bradford
Jennifer Ann Williams Daniels	South Miami	85112/4873	Thomas Rogers	Brewster
Mary Ann Dolliver Durrance	Lakeland	85113/4874	Stephen Hopkins	Fuller
Curtis Alton Johnson	Oviedo	85114/4875	John Alden	Howland
Audrey Marie Gay Connor	St. Petersburg	85115/4876	John Howland	Bradford
Wanda Navine Foley	Lake Alfred	85116/4879	Degory Priest	Fuller
Patricia Ann Leister-Ricci	Naples	82697/4880	John Alden	Standish
(transfer in from NJ)				
Cynthia Johnson Weatherby	St. Petersburg	85138/4881	Thomas Rogers	Bradford
Blanche Swope McFadden	Howey-in-the-Hills	85139/4882	Francis Eaton	Chilton

RESIGNED IN GOOD STANDING

Dr. William Paul Hopkins		74190/4089	Stephen Hopkins	Mullins
Rev. Edgar Merle Bailey		71226/3893	Myles Standish	Mullins
Georgia Margaret Chandler Martin		57913/3104	Richard Warren	Standish
Katherine H. Williams		74115/4084	Stephen Hopkins	Standish

TRANSFERS IN/OUT

Dennis William Hite	TR TO MI	84020/4795	William Bradford	Bradford
Frank Isaac Lailer	TR TO ME RESCINDED	74229/4094	John Alden	Tilley

IN MEMORIAM

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Gen/FL #s</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>	<u>Colony</u>
Robert Bothfeld	25 Oct 2012	69834/3767	George Soule	Doty
Phyllis Trout Sparta	4 Nov 2012	44688/2269	Richard Warren	Warren
William Gordon Sherman	9 Nov 2012	39056/2373	Richard Warren	Brewster
Dewitt Harley Stubbs	19 Mar 2012	54468/2891	Stephen Hopkins	Cooke



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

PILGRIM HISTORY COMES ALIVE IN OUR SCHOOLS

On 11 Oct 2012, Ren and Muriel Cushing visited a 5th grade class in Port St. Lucie at the invitation of their great niece Amy. The class had been given the project of researching their own ancestors and making a presentation of their findings to their classmates. Amy is a junior member of the Florida Mayflower Society and a descendant of Pilgrims John Alden, Isaac Allerton, William Bradford, William Brewster, John Billington, James Chilton, Francis Cooke, Edward Doty, Francis Eaton, Samuel Fuller, Stephen Hopkins, John Howland, William Mullins, Myles Standish, Henry Samson, George Soule, John Tilley and Richard Warren. In addition to making a poster outlining her links back to the Mayflower passengers, she asked to interview her great aunt and uncle and they volunteered to give a PowerPoint presentation on "Children of the Mayflower." Muriel appeared in her handmade period costume and, in the accompanying photo, joins Amy as she displays the poster she made to explain her Pilgrim ancestry.

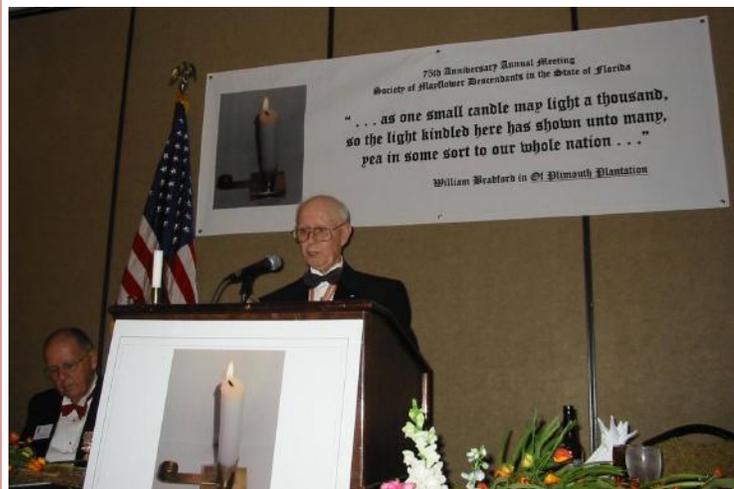


Ren and Muriel both reported that they were impressed with the interest and many questions asked by the class, and that the children were attentive as to the lives of the Mayflower children. Muriel added that they all were "fascinated with those troublesome Billington boys, John and Francis," especially the facts that they nearly blew up the Mayflower, that the Pilgrims laughed at Francis when he claimed to discover "a great sea" (now known in Plymouth as the Billington Sea), and that John was found in the woods and kept by the Indians until he could be returned to the plantation. The teacher also said she was not aware that, after half the passengers died during the first winter, half the survivors were children. Muriel talked mainly about the children's duties, the games they played, and the Billington boys' antics to bring them to life and show that children mainly have remained the same over the centuries.

In the course of preparing her project, Amy also learned that, according to family lore, she is a Wampanoag descendant on her mother's side. "This is fascinating," Muriel added, "and Amy and I want to cooperate to do further research to prove it's more than just family lore." Amy did such an outstanding job on her poster and oral presentation that, of course, she received an A+ from her teacher. She gets the same grade from us, all her Mayflower cousins.

75th ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL MEETING BRADFORD'S "ONE SMALL CANDLE" WAS THEME OF MAYFLOWER BANQUET

Ninety-three members and guests of the Florida Mayflower Society gathered at the Mayflower Banquet in the Starboard Ballroom of the Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk Hotel on Friday 16 Nov 2012 for a gala 75th birthday party. There were candles and birthday cake and ice cream to celebrate the milestone, accompanied by soothing classical background music furnished by an accomplished string trio.



FSMD Governor Ren Cushing calls the 75th annual meeting to order as Deputy Governor Ken Carter (seated left) listens.

Fourteen of FSMD's colonies were represented, with the host Warren Colony having the largest contingent (20) followed by Mullins Colony (13), Chilton Colony (10) and Alden Colony (7). Alberta Irwin, a member of the Georgia Mayflower Society, came from Atlanta with her husband Jim. Winslow Colony member Juanita Powell and her husband David traveled the farthest (1068 miles from Spring Branch, TX). Tilley Colony member Priscilla Hambrough, cousin of FSMD Governor Ren Cushing, traveled 800 miles from Hanover, PA, and was accompanied by guests Kimberly Hambrough and Rene Quintanilla.

Brewster Colony governor Clara Waterman Powell and her husband Ed traveled 376 miles from their home in Homestead, while Doty Colony governor Patricia Crumly and her husband

John drove 354 miles from their home in Pensacola. In all, 10 current colony governors were present, as well as 12 former colony governors and 3 former FSMD governors (Fran Lopus from Naples (2005-2008), George Allerton from Delray Beach (2002-2005), and Ed Sullivan from Ft. Lauderdale (1993-1996)). Ed went on to serve with distinction as GSMD's Counsellor General from 2002-2005 and as Governor General from 2005-2008.



Col. Edward Delano Sullivan
 GSMD Governor General (2005-2008)
 GSMD Counsellor General (2002-2005)
 FSMD Governor (1993-1996)
 FSMD Counsellor (2008-2012)
 Alden Colony governor (1988-1990)



General, Lea Sinclair Filson (photo above) from New Orleans. Lea's keynote address, "Keepers of the Candle: Who You Are and Why It Matters," was both inspirational and challenging. More on that later.

The Mayflower Banquet began with a "trooping of the colors" led by FSMD Governor Ren Cushing and Captain Jim Preston (photo below right) accompanied by the playing of "God Bless America" and "My Country 'Tis of Thee." This was followed by Jim leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Salute to the Mayflower Society flag.

In keeping with the "one small candle" theme, Governor Cushing opened the banquet by saying: "Before the invocation, we're going to start a new tradition which hopefully will be carried on for the next 75 years ... 'The Passing of the Flame.' Each of you has at your place a votive candleholder



Photos courtesy of Nelson Albrecht (above) and Barbara Sovereign (right)

and candle with our state society's official logo. These are yours to keep as a memento of this event. I'd like to ask our honored guest, Assistant Governor General Lea Filson, to light the 'mother' candle here at the podium. Bradford proudly proclaimed: '... 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.' We take pride and also inspiration from these words ... accepting as our own responsibility the job of not just keeping the flame alive but also passing it along to others."

At that point, the flame from the "mother candle" on the podium was passed to each end of the head table and from there to each person in the room. The house lights were dimmed and FSMD Elder Jean Albrecht offered the invocation.



Lea Filson lighting the "mother candle"

Governor Cushing then concluded:

"Please extinguish your candle and take your seats. The flame on your candle may go out but Bradford's wish (and ours) is that the one in your heart continues to burn brightly. Take that flame back to your local colony and use it to light a thousand more."



Doty Colony governor Patricia Crumly and her husband John

Richard S. Wheeler (photo at right), governor of the Richard Warren Colony, then welcomed all in attendance on behalf of the 71 host colony members, first wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving: "391 years ago, in the Fall of 1621, maybe at this very time of the year



but more likely a month earlier before the first snowfall, our Pilgrim ancestors who survived the first devastating winter at Plymouth sat down to share their harvest feast with their Native American allies and friends, without whose support and assistance that feast would not have been possible. They had much to be thankful for ... just as we do today. As a reminder of that first Thanksgiving, we each have a symbolic clamshell at our place. Take that clamshell and the accompanying card home with you and put it on your own Thanksgiving dinner table next week as a reminder of our ancestors' struggles ... and of their success."



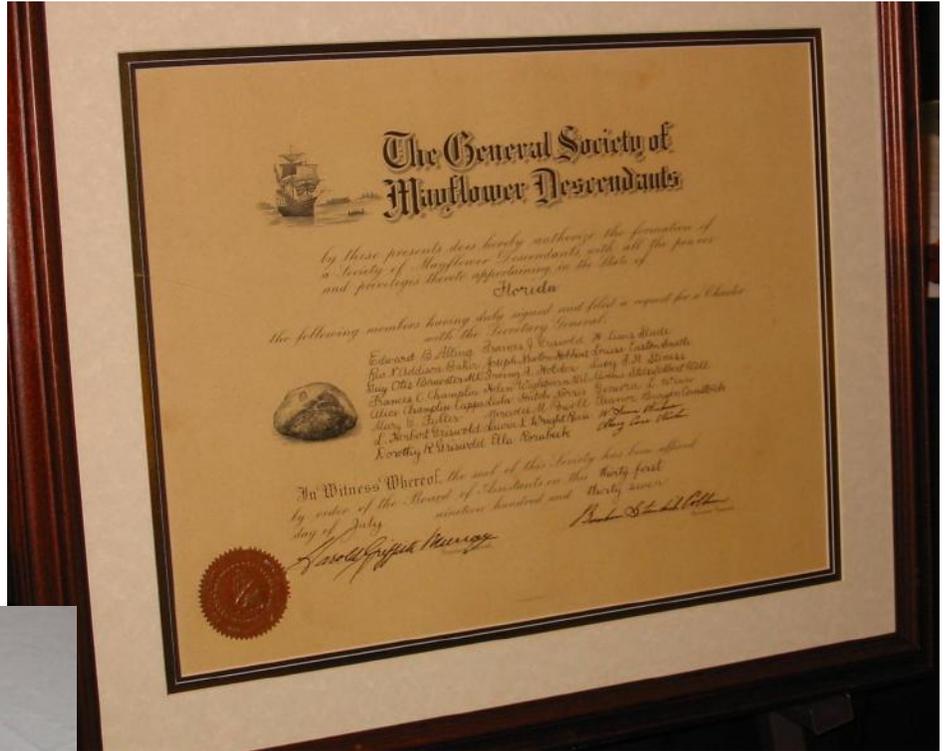
Clamshells were used as spoons by the Pilgrims

After asking his fellow Warren Colony members present to stand, Wheeler concluded: "On behalf of all of us who are standing, I welcome you to the Florida Society's 75th birthday party. You've already had the candles. The cake and ice cream will come at the end of our Thanksgiving meal. Thank you for coming! We're very happy you're all here."

Governor Ren Cushing responded by complimenting the Warren Colony for all the arrangements, especially the beautifully decorated banquet hall, proclaiming it "the best annual state meeting ever." A traditional Thanksgiving feast was then served, consisting of a Waldorf salad and an entrée of honey glazed ham and roast turkey with mashed and sweet potatoes and seasonal vegetables. Yum!!!!



A string trio of local Jacksonville musicians, consisting of (L to R) Nancy Gehret, Ginger Dodd & Patti Coleman provided soft classical music during the social hour & dinner.



FSMD's original charter dated 31 July 1937 was prominently displayed



Table centerpieces (above & above right) and door prize raffle basket (below right) were carefully & beautifully arranged by Warren Colony prospective member (and John Alden descendant) Barbara Sovereign



A feature of the Mayflower Banquet was a door prize raffle, the grand prize for which was a large grapevine basket with two bottles of wine (Mayflower Red & Mayflower White) from Plymouth Winery in Plymouth, MA, 3 kinds of cheese, 2 boxes of crackers, a silver wine bottle stopper, a Fall table runner, some cocktail napkins ("Wine a little ... you'll feel better"), a ceramic turkey with hors d'oeuvre picks, 2 tapers and 2 Pilgrim figurines. It had a \$300 retail value and tickets went like hotcakes. Four consola-

tion prizes were also given away: 2 bottles of Mayflower Red and 2 of Mayflower White. The winning tickets were drawn by our honored guest Lea Filson and the grand prize went to Rhoda Boutin (photo below), wife of Warren Colony captain Mike Boutin.



Warren Colony deputy governor Jon H. Wheeler (center) puts the bite on Warren Colony historian (and former colony governor) Laura Farmer (left) and Standish Colony governor (and member-at-large of the State BoA) Nancy Fodi (right) for door prize raffle tickets. Judging from final ticket sales, Jon could sell ice to the Eskimos.

Following dinner, the traditional FSMD Mayflower Cake and ice cream were served. In the photo at right, GSMD Assistant Governor General (and former Louisiana Society Governor) Lea Filson and FSMD Governor Ren Cushing pose with the cake. Also visible is the lovely floral arrangement which had been sent by the Louisiana Society's Governor Lydia Ozenberger to help celebrate the Florida Society's 75th birthday.



Following dessert, Governor Cushing introduced the current state officers seated at the head table, along with former GG Ed Sullivan and former FSMD Governors Fran Lopus and George Allerton. He then read the Mayflower Compact Day proclamation which had been issued earlier that day by Florida's Governor Rick Scott.



It reads:

WHEREAS, on November 11, 1620

(November 21 new style), in Provincetown Harbor, after a long and dangerous voyage across the Atlantic in the Mayflower, 41 Englishmen composed the Mayflower Compact for the governance of the new colony they would establish; and

WHEREAS, the Mayflower Compact became a basic charter for American local self-government and one of the great fundamental documents of American history; and

WHEREAS, the Mayflower Compact provided for rule by the majority, a basic democratic principle that became an integral part of the American philosophy of government at all levels as the nation grew and developed into one of the world's important nations; and

WHEREAS, annually, the Society of Mayflower Descendants and other patriotic societies and groups relive this significant moment in American history by various and proper observances; and

WHEREAS, this year, the Society of Mayflower Descendants will observe November 21, 2012 as Mayflower Compact Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing November 21, 2012 as Mayflower Compact Day. [Signed & sealed at Tallahassee this 16th day of November 2012 - Rick Scott]



Seated in foreground: Cecilia Dailey, wife of FSMD webmaster & Mullins Colony treasurer Ron Dailey. Standing L to R: Warren Colony treasurer & member-at-large of the State BoA George Lockhart, his wife Rebecca, Warren Colony member Wendie Biring and her husband Victor.

FSMD Historian Muriel Cushing then read the Ancestors' Roll with each member standing in silent homage as his or her ancestor's name (or ancestors' names) were called.

Muriel concluded by offering the following tribute to those who have contributed to FSMD's growth and success over the past 75 years:

"We all received in our welcome bags a listing of the 24 charter members of the Florida Society. They were truly the Pilgrims who started our society but they had a lot of help from others in the past 75 years in making our society a success. Will all those present who now serve or who've ever served as a state officer, a state director or a state committee chair please stand and remain standing.

Will all those present who now serve or who've ever served as a colony officer, a colony director or a colony committee chair also please stand and remain standing.

Those of you still seated, if you're the spouse or partner of anyone who's standing, please stand also ... your patient support and encouragement of your spouse or partner was and is essential to our society's success.

If there's STILL anyone seated, don't worry ... our spies have taken down your names and a state or colony officer will be calling you before Christmas to ask you to volunteer.

Ladies and gentlemen, please give yourselves a hearty round of applause ... you're ALL the reason the Florida Society is as vibrant and successful as it is today."

Governor Cushing then introduced the keynote speaker, GSMD's Assistant Governor General Lea Sinclair Filson, whose address is reprinted below in full. It's a message each FSMD member should hear and heed.

KEEPERS OF THE CANDLE: WHO YOU ARE AND WHY IT MATTERS

Greetings to the state of Florida from all the state societies that make up the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. We all wish you congratulations on the 75th Diamond Anniversary of the Florida Mayflower Society.

I bring greetings from Governor General Bruce MacGunnigle to state Governor Ren Cushing, to all Colony Governors, and to the officers and members of the Florida society.

I want to thank Richard Warren Colony governor Richard Wheeler and his colony officers and members for all they have done to prepare for this most important occasion. Your hard work shows and has culminated in an incredible event.

I also want to pay tribute to the former Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants from the state of Florida, Colonel Edward Delano Sullivan. Ed was the Governor General I served under during my first term of national office from 2005 through 2008. Ed, you must be very proud this evening to celebrate such an auspicious occasion with your state.

I feel greatly honored to be a part of your celebration for a couple of reasons. First, to celebrate a milestone as important as your 75th anniversary is a huge honor. Second, to be able to talk to you about 'who we are as Mayflower members and why it matters' is an opportunity I just couldn't turn down.

You know, we really are "Keepers of the Candle." Depending on how seriously we take the responsibility to spread the word about our amazing ancestors will determine how far into the future their brave and courageous journey will continue to influence those who come after us.

We are, together, part of a great human experiment that grew into a great country called America. When William Bradford wrote those words, "...and as one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shown unto many, yea in some sort to



our whole nation...," I wonder if he sensed that his words would travel through time to millions of people? Tonight, you represent 75 years of candles that have shown brightly on the story of the Pilgrims.

It starts out with a question, usually once we hit 50 years old or beyond. "Who's my Daddy's Daddy?" From there, in a soulful search for who we are and where we come from, we begin the search. Each of us, at one time or another, came to the realization that we have Pilgrim blood running through our veins. Do you remember the excitement of finding out? I certainly do.

Many of you did the painstaking research and the never-ending collecting of proof papers yourselves. Some of you have known since childhood. Others, like my Mema and her sisters, found out quite by accident at an older age. No matter how the knowledge came to you, admit it, you were blown away. YOU have a grandparent, many generations removed, who sailed on the Mayflower!

What you may not realize is that getting that certificate to hang on the wall that proves, without a doubt, that you are descended from a Pilgrim, also places a responsibility on you. It is your heritage that now demands that you continue telling the story. The old saying, "What you are is where you've been" is so much more meaningful to us, because what we are is where our ancestors have been.

The Allertons, who I descend from, arrived in America in 1620 aboard the Mayflower with great hope after braving the adventure together as a family. A pregnant Marry Norris Allerton gave birth to a stillborn child in January, barely a month after arriving. Shortly, thereafter, on February 25th, Isaac Allerton watched his pregnant wife die before his three young children. How he must have ached with the dreadful knowledge that his love, and the mother of his children, had suffered beyond necessity only to lose the fight and succumb to illness. He must have stayed awake at night sitting alone by the light of a candle, wondering how he could participate in settling a strange land, while tending to three innocent kids with no mother.

We all know the stories of what our ancestors went through. The smallest of the Allerton children, little three-year-old Mary Allerton, lived to marry, bear eight children of her own, and live a full life, the last of the Pilgrims to die on November 28, 1699. They were a strong stock, those Pilgrims, just as we are today.

Each of us are imprinted, within our genes, with the memory of what our beloved ancestors went through in order to start a new life in a foreign land; the same group of people who signed a compact that was later a model for organizing a new nation. Winston Churchill said of the Mayflower Compact that it was "...one of the remarkable documents in history, a spontaneous covenant for political organization."

Spontaneity was the Pilgrims' middle name. They had no choice. They had to learn compromise. They had to learn flexibility. They had to look at what God brought each day and quickly deal with it to survive.

That is who you are.

So why does it matter? Here we are, 392 years later, 115 years after GSMD was formed, and 75 years after Florida's state society was formed, looking around the room at each other, knowing we all walked this earth together in the form of our ancestors generations ago. Believe me, it matters.

We care enough about the story of our past to look for each other twice a year at state meetings and once a year at national meetings. We cherish our heritage enough to work tirelessly, without pay, to continue the traditions of this society. We cousins love our family ties enough to hold on to each other and grow old together. In spite of the misunderstandings, bruised feelings, and pain we knowingly or unknowingly force upon each other, we soldier on, year after year with unswerving loyalty to our society. We forgive and forget and keep on keeping on.

That is because our DNA is the embodiment of the spirits of those ancestors who want to be remembered and proceed to push us to tell their stories over and over again. Those voices in the wilderness lit one small candle that lit a thousand candles that inspired a nation, and as we light our candles through generations, we guarantee the story will not be forgotten.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas with lights and candles and gifts, think about our Pilgrim ancestors. On December 25th, 1620, they had only been at Plymouth for two weeks and they still had no shelter. On what we know as Christmas day, they started to construct their first building, the common storage house. Within a week, the sickness that was to kill half of them set in.

Oh yes, that is who we are. And that is why it matters.



Tell this amazing story to all your children, your grandchildren, your nieces, your nephews, and even your friends' children when you see them through the holidays. You are the keeper of the candle and, so long as we live, they too shall live. They are a part of us.

Tell the story throughout your lifetime. Bring more members into the fold. Work hard for your state society and get involved in the general society. Make your families understand that we have a duty to those relatives before us who toiled, dealt with change, and even died to bring us here. That is who we are, and that is why it matters. Your ancestors are counting on you. Pass the candle along.

Thank you.



At the conclusion of her remarks, FSMD Governor Ren Cushing presented Lea with a Certificate of Appreciation which read:

"This certificate is awarded to

LEA SINCLAIR FILSON
Assistant Governor General
General Society of Mayflower Descendants

in gratitude for her appearance as keynote speaker at the 75th anniversary annual meeting of the Florida Society and also for her dedication to the preservation and furtherance of the "one small candle's light" first kindled by our Pilgrim ancestors four centuries ago in Leiden and carried by them to and carefully nurtured by them in Plimoth Colony in the New World.



SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

/s/ Reynolds P. Cushing, Governor /s/ Jessie F. Brabham, Secretary
16 Nov 2012"

He also presented to her, on behalf of all FSMD members, as an honorarium gift a pair of lovely Waterford crystal candlesticks, a fitting way in which to keep "one candle's light" (or two) alive and burning brightly long into the future. Lea was visibly moved by this token of our affection and appreciation.



Cooke Colony vice governor & FSMD Endowment Fund trustee Ruth Ann Fay in period dress

The Mayflower Banquet concluded with the door prize raffle drawing and a benediction by FSMD Elder Jean E. Albrecht.



FSMD Historian Muriel Cushing & FSMD Deputy Governor Ken Carter greet arriving members & guests at the registration table in period dress



MONTAGE - FSMD'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL MEETING



EDWARD FULLER COLONY

The Edward Fuller Colony held its regular Fall meeting on Saturday 13 Oct 2012 at Fred's Southern Kitchen in Lakeland. Colony historian Margaret Wheaton welcomed new members Dee Bartlett and Nancy Dotson and reported that Mary Ann Durrance, Wanda Foley, Jennifer Vibral, Herb Waldron, Elizabeth Laughlin, David Slavic and Chris Robb are working on their applications. There are no applications pending in Plymouth at this time.



Dick Thomas

Captain Virginia Heller introduced the following guests, each of whom identified their Mayflower passenger ancestor: Mary Ann Durrance, Wanda Foley, Herb and Fonda Waldren, Beth Laughlin, Mary Jane Hunt and Mary Fuller Hunt.

Junior Membership Chair Jane Brumbaugh reported that 3 new junior members have been added: Austin Tyler Kochanskyj, grandson of Bonnie Kochanskyj, Caitlin Nicole Fleetwood and Bryce Thomas Fleetwood, grandchildren of Gerald Wicker, Jr. Fuller Colony now has 46 junior members.

Colony governor Jim Preston reported that he and five other colony members will be attending the 75th annual meeting of the state society on 16-17 Nov in Jacksonville. In addition to being a member of the state society BOA as colony governor, Jim is state Captain and state Junior Membership Chair. Jim also displayed the new name badges which are available for all members.



Foreground: Fuller Colony charter member Don Winslow. Background (L to R): Jean Shea Harden, Virginia Heller & Herb Heller.

Jean Harden's resignation as colony secretary was accepted with regret and she was thanked for her years of service to the colony. Daniel Sprague was nominated and approved by voice vote as the new colony secretary. Barbara Reed submitted a proposed budget for calendar year 2013 which was approved by voice vote. Jean Harden suggested that the colony donate \$100 to the Polk County Historical Society as it did last year. After discussion, a motion to that effect was made, seconded and approved by unanimous consent.

The program speaker was Dick Thomas, husband of former colony governor and current vice governor Blythe Thomas, who entertained all present with an interesting presentation on several of his more colorful family ancestors. [Acknowledgment and thanks to colony governor Jim Preston and secretary Jean Harden for the information and photos for this item.]

SAMSON COLONY



Dr. Albert Myers

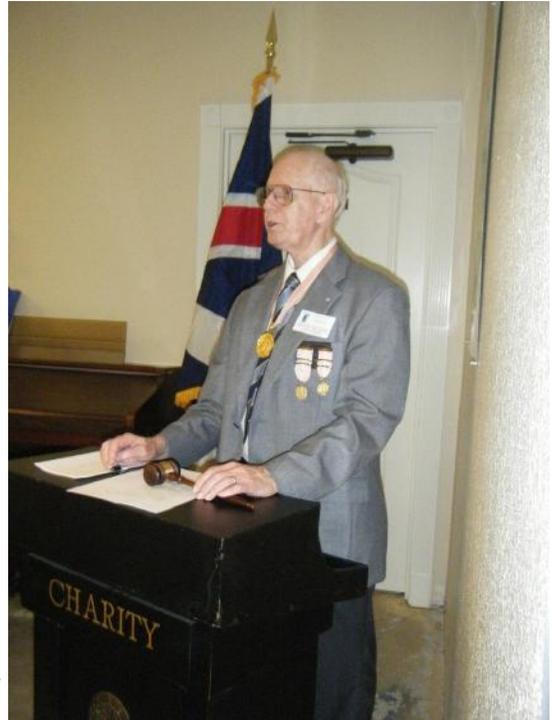
Members and guests of the Henry Samson Colony met for lunch on Wednesday 31 Oct 2012 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fort Myers for their annual Fall membership meeting. The speaker was colony captain, Dr. Albert E. Myers, who explained how our English ancestors gave us the foundation for many of our core attitudes and ethics. He titled his talk, "How our English ancestors shaped New England culture, 1620-1641."



In the photo at right, colony members James Waller, Mary Randell and Laura Fair Randell listen attentively. In the background are prospective member Connie Lizak Kelly and member John Koehler. [Photos courtesy of colony governor Clyde Blanchard and Dr. Myers.]

WILLIAMMULLINS COLONY

The William Mullins Colony met on Saturday 6 Oct 2012 at the Ocala Elks Lodge with 38 members and guests present. The featured speaker was FSMD Governor Ren Cushing, who spoke on the subject of the life of Enoch Crosby. The next colony meeting is scheduled for Saturday 16 Feb 2013 at Elks Lodge



in Ocala and the program has not yet been decided. [Photos courtesy of colony newsletter editor Paul Pardee and colony member Shirley Ferris.]

FRANCIS COOKE COLONY

The Fall meeting of the Cooke Colony was held on Saturday 3 Nov 2012 at noon at the Halifax River Yacht Club in Daytona Beach with 44 members and guests present. Colony governor Lara Beth Yancey presided. Secretary Nelda Thomas read the Ancestors' Roll Call, which disclosed that 11 attendees had John Alden as their ancestor. Historian Julie Simison reported that she is currently working with 9 prospective members on their membership application submissions. Treasurer Jennifer Link reported on the condition of the colony's treasury, including a status report on members' payment of their 2012 dues.

The guest speaker was local author and historian William Ryan, who gave a wonderful presentation on his four books accompanied with beautiful slides. Much of his writing concerns the settling of the Daytona Beach area and the fascinating blend of cultures present throughout the centuries. His most recent work concerns the wealthy Bulow family. The Old Kings Road dating from the mid-1700s can still be seen in our area; this was the first and only road leading into Florida for many years.

[Acknowledgment and thanks to colony secretary Nelda Thomas for submitting the information for this item.]

JAMES CHILTON COLONY

Nearly 60 members and guests gathered at the Chilton Colony's 2nd annual Thanksgiving buffet lunch on Saturday 10 Nov 2012 at the Pimlico Recreation Center in The Villages. Colony governor Stephen "Scrib" Kelly (photo below) presided, colony (and FSMD) elder Jeanne Albrecht offered the invocation, and captain Shirley Smith led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US flag and the salute to the Mayflower Society flag and then read The Mayflower Compact.

Colony treasurer (and FSMD Deputy Governor) Ken Carter reported on the strength of the colony's financial condition. [Editor's Note: It was the shortest financial report I'd ever heard ... opening balance, what came in, what went out, ending balance. Thorough but brief! And welcome too, since everyone was anxious to get to the buffet.]

The colony furnished the roast turkey, stuffing and gravy for the meal while members and guests contributed all the side dishes and desserts. The buffet table, which must have been 30 feet long, was filled to overflowing with mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, macaroni and cheese, and all kinds of other mouth-watering dishes.



es. The separate dessert table groaned under the weight of an assortment of pies, cakes, cookies and other delicacies from which (one reliable sourced assured your Editor) all calories had been magically removed ahead of time.



Colony vice governor Marcia Dalkalitis and secretary Nancy Formisano and their team of kitchen volunteers did a marvelous job of setting this repast out for all to enjoy. [Editor's Note: Let me say just one thing ... Chilton Colony has some people with serious culinary skills.]



The program featured Fay Alexander of Gainesville, author of the remarkable and illuminating novel *One Candle's Light*. This is the fictional but historically accurate account of the events, starting in the 1580s, which led the Pilgrims, first, to separate from the Church of England in the area surrounding York; second, to flee to Amsterdam and then to Leiden to escape the religious persecution they suffered under King James; and, finally, to leave Leiden on the "weighty voyage" (Bradford's phrase) to the New World aboard the *Mayflower*.



In dialogue and interactions which she imagined and then set down in convincing readable prose, Fay breathes life into Bradford, Brewster and Hopkins .. and they are transformed from stiff historical icons into flesh-and-blood human beings. [Editor's Note: I purchased her book after hearing her at the Howland Colony meeting last March and I've read it twice. I enthusiastically recommend it to all FSMD members as an invaluable addition to your Pilgrim libraries.]

Fay, a devout woman, related the circumstances in her life which led to the "call" she received to research and write about our Pilgrim fathers and their great adventure to settle a new continent. She also related her personal experiences during her several research trips to England, especially the unmistakable "nostalgic" feeling which came over her when she stood on the dock in Dartmouth where the group had put in for repairs to the *Speedwell* before continuing on to Plymouth where they departed for New England. "It was the same feeling the Pilgrims must have had, knowing they were leaving their homeland forever," she said, "and it was heartrending."

Fay Alexander with the Governor's Award presented by Chilton Colony governor Scrib Kelly.

Fay has given her presentation to the Howland, Bradford and Warren Colonies (in addition now to Chilton) and makes an excellent guest speaker, both entertaining and informative. [Photos courtesy of your Editor.]

EDWARD DOTY COLONY

On Saturday 10 Nov 2012, the Edward Doty Colony's Thanksgiving Day dinner was held at the Azalea Trace Retirement Community in Pensacola. Our newest member Peter Tavares was introduced and presented with a pink carnation. His wife Genevieve accompanied him. As they left they said, "See you next time." We love having new enthusiastic people.

There were 14 descendants attending, 2 junior members and 7 guests. FSMD Governor Ren Cushing gave a most interesting illustrated presentation on *Classic Heroes*. His PowerPoint assistant was FSMD Historian & AG Muriel Cushing. These two make an exceptional duo.

A shadow box representing a small replica of the *Mayflower* surrounded by examples of nautical knots was presented to the Governor. A *Mayflower* floral centerpiece was given to Muriel. It was truly our pleasure to have the



Left to right: seated is past colony governor and current treasurer Bunny Halligan, standing are Doty historian Mary Birch, new Doty member Peter Tavares and his wife Genevieve, and seated is Doty junior member Erin Campbell.

Governor and Historian visit our colony. Our next meeting will be Saturday 9 Feb 2013, at the Tryon Branch Library. This is scheduled to be our Mayflower Mardi Gras business meeting. [Photos and information courtesy of colony governor Patricia Crumly.]



FSMD Governor Ren Cushing (far left) addresses Doty Colony members and guests as his wife (and FSMD Historian & AG) Muriel Cushing (seated foreground) assists with the slide show.

JOHN HOWLAND COLONY

Members of Howland Colony gathered for their regular Fall meeting on Monday 12 Nov 2012 and a delicious lunch was served at the Mayflower Retirement Center in Winter Park. Two guests were present, Fred Gaines and Curtis Johnson. Curtis's application is now pending approval in Plymouth. Colony governor (and FSMD Treasurer) Hank Dressel presided and announced that Howland has 73 members plus one dual member [Editor's Note: That would be me! Dual with Warren-Howland and dual with Warren-Chilton.]



Upon a call of the Ancestors' Roll, there were several members who had more than one Pilgrim ancestor. William White was the passenger with the most descendants ... four ... 91 year old Lois Norris (center), her daughter (and colony treasurer) Nancy Norris (left), her daughter Jackie Arsenault (right) and your Editor (no relation).

Howland has the distinction of having as members 8 from the same family spanning FOUR generations: matriarch Lois, her daughters Nancy and Jackie and Mary Jane Carpi, her granddaughters Kristine Kuntz, Karen Bohlin and Nicole Norris, and her great-granddaughter

Jacqueline Furukawa

The guest speaker was Richard S. Wheeler, Warren Colony governor and editor of *The Florida Pilgrim*, who spoke on the history and future of FSMD's newsletter. Among the interesting facts he noted are:

- ◆ Prior to 1985, the newsletter was published 1-4 times a year by the Governor either just before or after the annual membership meeting or the Spring BoA meeting; it was hand-typed and signed and was 2-4 pages in length.
- ◆ "Newsletter No. 1" was published in January 1955 by Governor Dorothy B. Andrews and announced that FSMD state dues were being increased 100% (i.e., from \$1 to \$2 a year)!
- ◆ "Newsletter No. 5" in October 1956 reported that Mary Jane Case Newlin, one of the original 24 charter members of FSMD in 1937 and the organizing member of the Francis Cooke Colony, had passed away.
- ◆ In early 1985 (probably January or February), the first issue of "Florida Mayflower Newsletter" was published; it was four pages mimeographed under the editorship of Dr. Alma J. Payne of Bonita Springs. In 1987-1988, Dr. Payne would also serve as colony governor of the Myles Standish Colony.
- ◆ Including Dr. Payne, there have been 7 editors of the newsletter since



1985, two of whom were colony and state governors (i.e., Willard Staples Jr. of Tampa, Bradford Colony governor from 1980-82 and FSMD Governor from 1984-86, and Betty M. Styer of Sarasota, Tilley Colony governor from 1988-90 and FSMD Governor from 1990-93) and four of whom were (or are) colony governors (i.e., Dr. Payne at Standish Colony 1987-88; Frank A. Ineson of Kissimmee, Howland Colony governor 1987-88; Nancy Fodi of Naples, current Standish Colony governor, and Wheeler, current Warren Colony governor).

- ◆ The average tenure of his 6 predecessors has been 4 1/3 years, with Louise Rumnock of Port Orange having served the longest (i.e., 6 years).
- ◆ By 1993 under Willard Staples, it was still typewritten but had grown to 8 pages.
- ◆ In 1998 under Betty Styer it appears to have been professionally printed and mailed from Sarasota.
- ◆ In April 1999, in the issue which welcomed the William Mullins Colony into FSMD, the name was changed to "Florida Pilgrim" at the suggestion of Betty Styer and approved by the State BoA.
- ◆ Black-and-white graphics and photos were introduced starting in 2003 under Louise Rumnock and have been an increasingly frequent feature ever since.
- ◆ From the Winter 2009 to the Summer 2011 issues, the editor was Nancy Fodi and, for the first time, each issue was posted on FSMD's website with 12 or 16 pages in full color. Due to cost considerations, however, the printed version mailed to members had (and still has) to be produced in black-and-white.
- ◆ The last 4 issues produced by Wheeler have featured a new masthead and graphics featuring Dr. Jeremy Bangs's painting of the *Mayflower*, and an emphasis on colony news and photos. Pre-2009 back issues of the newsletter have been scanned and are now posted on the state website. Several issues are missing and it's hoped some of our older members can help fill in the gaps in our online archive. Go to www.flmayflower.com/newsletter.html to see a list of missing issues we'd like to borrow and scan.



Pilgrim editor Richard S. Wheeler and Howland Colony governor (and FSMD Treasurer) Hank Dressel

"The newsletter and website are two of the most important membership communication tools of the Florida Society," Wheeler concluded, "designed and intended to keep all members informed of events in their own colonies and in the other colonies throughout the state. We welcome any and all comments and suggestions as to ways in which we can better serve you, our most valuable resource, the individual member."

MYLES STANDISH COLONY

The Myles Standish Colony held its Fall meeting at the Country Club of Naples on Wednesday 14 Nov 2012. Colony member Virginia Bailey gave a PowerPoint presentation on "St. Augustine and Florida at the Time of the Mayflower Landing." This program is timely as 2012 begins the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the founding of Florida.

St. Augustine, founded in September 1565 by Spanish explorer and admiral Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, is the oldest continuously occupied European-established city and port in the continental United States. The vicinity of St. Augustine was first explored in 1513 by Spanish explorer and governor of Puerto Rico, Juan Ponce de León, who claimed the region for the Spanish crown. Prior to the founding of St. Augustine in 1565, several earlier



Virginia Bailey

attempts at European colonization in what is now Florida were made by both Spain and France, but all failed.

The Winter meeting of the Myles Standish Colony will be held on Wednesday 9 Jan 2013 at 1130am at the Country Club of Naples. Muriel Cushing, FSMD Historian & AG, will present a program on "Notable Women Who Are Mayflower Descendants." Muriel is na-





tional chair of GSMD's Women of the Mayflower Project. Created in 2008 under former Governor General Judith Swan, the WOM Project is a tangible example of GSMD's far-reaching commitment to educating people about the role of the Pilgrims in the early history and development of what was to become the United States of America. Muriel and her committee members are charged with developing opportunities for honoring the female passengers of the Mayflower in greater breadth and depth. WOM is a natural extension of GSMD's work in honoring the Pilgrims by providing additional means for people to learn more about the role of the women of the Mayflower in the pre-voyage, voyage and establishment of Plymouth Colony. With this new program, the WOM committee intends that the female passengers aboard the Mayflower will be further recognized and honored for their courageous roles and unique places in history.

WOM's objectives are to honor the female passengers of the Mayflower by:

- ◇ increasing the "gender recognition equity" of the contributions of the female passengers;
- ◇ supporting the role of MTDNA research in establishing the documentation of matrilineal lines;
- ◇ providing opportunities to GSMD's membership to learn more about the female passengers through the publication of their stories in the *Mayflower Quarterly*;
- ◇ increasing opportunities for partnerships between GSMD and other organizations who are interested in the female passengers; and
- ◇ increasing the number of applications for GSMD membership by opening additional maternal lines beyond the three which were recognized prior to 2008.

{Photos courtesy of Ron Benson, Standish Colony newsletter editor.}

MULLINS COLONY GOVERNOR RICHARD SUMNER VISITED ANCESTORS' GRAVES

Richard Sumner, Mullins Colony governor, was on vacation in New England in October and decided to stop by and find his ancestors' grave sites. He is a descendant of John Alden and Priscilla Mullins and also Myles Standish. It was his first time to their grave sites, which are in The Old Grave Yard in Duxbury, MA. "I remember having quite a eerie feeling when I first saw them and I just stood or sat there and thought about being there," Sumner said.

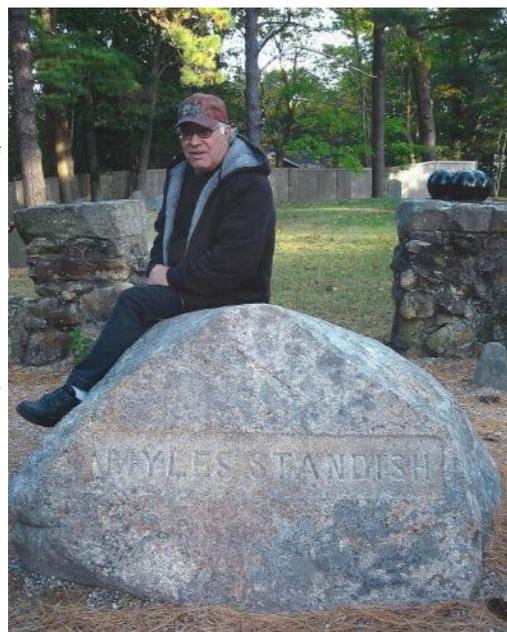


Sumner at John Alden's grave

Next year, he plans to return and find the graves of Steven Hopkins and William Mullins from whom he is also descended.

The Myles Standish Burial Ground (also known as Old Burying Ground or Standish Cemetery) in Duxbury is, according to the American Cemetery Association, the oldest maintained cemetery in the United States. The 1.5-acre burying ground is the final resting place of several well-known Pilgrims who arrived on the Mayflower in 1620, including Captain Myles Standish. The site was the location of Duxbury's first meeting house which was in use from approximately 1638 until 1789 at which point the cemetery was abandoned. It was reclaimed in 1887 by the Duxbury Rural Society, generating a widespread interest in locating the resting place of Duxbury's most famous colonist, Myles Standish. After two exhumations in 1889 and 1891, it was generally agreed that Standish's

remains had been located and a memorial was built over his grave site. The Standish grave site memorial is today the most prominent feature in the burying ground which is now owned and maintained by the Town of Duxbury.



Sumner at Myles Standish's grave

[Photos courtesy of Richard Sumner.]

ELIZABETH TILLEY COLONY

Members and guests of the Tilley Colony gathered for their regular November luncheon meeting on Saturday 10 Nov 2012 at Jacaranda West Country Club in Venice. Colony secretary and Junior Membership chair Sheryl Spain presented a program about one of her relatives who founded Hampton, NH. Located beside the Atlantic Ocean, Hampton is home to Hampton Beach, a summer tourist destination. First called the Plantation of Winnacunnet, Hampton was one of four original New Hampshire townships chartered by the General Court of Massachusetts, which then held authority over the colony. Originally explored in 1635, the town was settled in 1638 and incorporated in 1639. The Tilley Colony will next meet for lunch on Saturday 12 Jan 2013 at the Holiday Inn—Lakewood Ranch at 6231 Lake Osprey Drive in Sarasota, when Manatee County Historian Cathy Slusser will speak about the history of Manatee County. [Acknowledgment and thanks to colony governor John Mange for submitting the information for this item.]

BOA ANNUAL MEETING

The regular annual meeting of FSMD's Board of Assistants was called to order by Governor Reynolds P. Cushing at 8am on 17 Nov 2012 in the Anchor Room of the Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk Hotel. Upon a call of the roll, 22 of the 27 members of the BOA were present in person or by proxy and Governor Cushing declared the presence of a quorum.

Governor Cushing announced that FSMD's Counsellor, Col. Edward Delano Sullivan, Esq., of the Alden Colony, has decided to retire after 24 years of continuous dedicated service as an officer of the Florida and General Societies. Ed was Alden Colony governor from 1988-1990, Florida Society Governor from 1993-1996, GSMD Counsellor General from 2002-2005, GSMD Governor General from 2005-2008, and FSMD's Counsellor since 2008. The BOA accepted Ed's decision with regret and with deepest appreciation for his service, and also accepted Governor Cushing's recommendation that Richard Spice Wheeler, Esq., an attorney licensed to practice in New York, DC and Florida with 40 years' experience, be appointed to fill Ed's unexpired term.

The reading of the minutes of the BOA's 21 Apr 2012 meeting in Lakeland were dispensed with, those minutes having previously been circulated by email to all BOA members and approved by majority vote. Officers' and committee reports were deferred to the general membership meeting to commence immediately following the conclusion of the BOA meeting. Colony governors and other representatives reported on the number of members from each colony who are to be dropped from FSMD's membership roll before 31 Dec 2012 because of non-payment of 2012 annual dues.

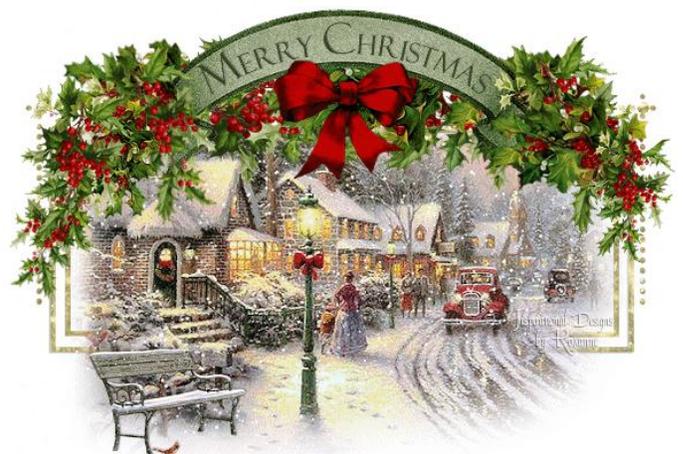
A motion was made, seconded and carried that minutes of all BOA meetings, after having been approved in writing by a majority of the entire BOA, be posted on the society's website or published in the *Pilgrim*, whichever is determined to be most expedient and economical. Governor Cushing announced that the Spring 2013 BOA meeting would be held 27 Apr 2013 at the Avenues Hotel in Lakeland, hosted again by the Fuller Colony. The meeting was adjourned at 845am.

LEGAL "STUFF" FROM THE EDITOR

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The Officers and Board of Assistants of
the Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the State of Florida
wish all members and their families





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.

Hilton Garden Inn

12600 University Drive

Ft. Myers, Florida

Please RSVP by January 12, 2013 to

Patricia Myers, Colony Treasurer

1705 Junonia Ct., Fort Myers, FL 33908-1603

Phone: 239-481-7539

Email: patricia33908@gmail.com

\$18 per person for lunch (specify tropical chicken, shrimp Cobb salad or pina colada grouper) with payment due upon making reservation

Bruce C. MacGunnigle of East Greenwich, Rhode Island, the 32nd Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD), will make his first official visit to Florida at the Henry Samson Colony meeting on January 19, 2013, in Fort Myers. MacGunnigle is a descendant of Mayflower passengers Elder William Brewster, James Chilton, Francis Cooke, Edward Fuller, Stephen Hopkins, Thomas Rogers and Richard Warren. He assumed leadership of the 115 year old hereditary society at its 39th General Congress held in September 2011 in Plymouth, MA, where it is headquartered in the historic Edward Winslow House.

MacGunnigle was elected governor of the Rhode Island Mayflower Society at the age of 39, becoming the youngest governor in that state society's history. Before being elected Governor General, he previously served GSMD as Member-at-Large of its Executive Committee, as Captain General, as Assistant Governor General, and as Congress Planning Chair for four General Congresses held triennially. He is the author of Volume 4 of *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations* dealing with Edward Fuller and his descendants.

GSMD counts over 28,000 members in state societies in all 50 States, the District of Columbia and Canada. Anyone able to document direct descent from one or more of the 102 passengers who arrived in Cape Cod Bay on the Mayflower in November 1620 is eligible for membership. The Florida Mayflower Society is one of the largest and most active of the state Mayflower societies, having over 1,300 members in 16 local colonies extending from Miami to Pensacola. The Henry Samson Colony is the newest Florida colony, having been chartered in October 2011.

Samson Colony governor Clyde A. Blanchard noted, "All Mayflower Society members here in the Fort Myers/Naples area are excited about being able to host our Governor General's first official visit to Florida. We look forward to meeting Bruce and his wife Kate and learning more about his focus during his three-year term of office. Bruce's intense interest in New England history and his authorship of many historical and genealogical books have made him the ideal person to lead our great society."

"It is a great pleasure for me to serve as Governor General of this wonderful organization," MacGunnigle said. "While I've been a member for almost 40 years, and have served for decades as an officer in both the Rhode Island and General Societies, I'm looking forward to new experiences meeting and working with members and State Societies all over North America. We have many talented members and I'm looking forward to expanding my knowledge of these dedicated men and women."

FSMD Governor Ren Cushing said, "Bruce MacGunnigle is an outstanding leader and spokesman for the Mayflower Society and we're delighted to welcome him to Florida."

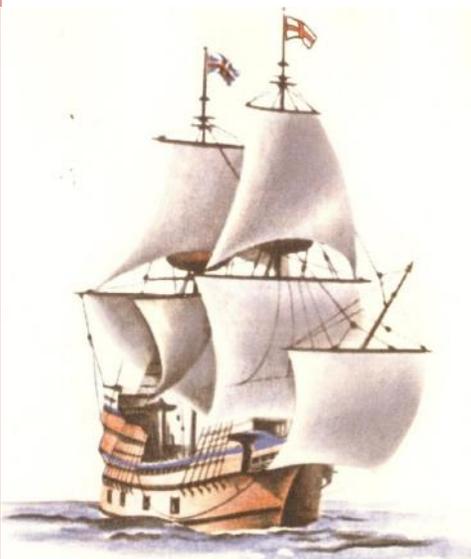


Bruce & Kate MacGunnigle at GSMD Board of Assistants meeting 8 Sept 2012, Mt. Laurel, NJ

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida
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1. **SNAIL MAIL:** for those members who do not have internet access, we print and mail a copy of each issue by bulk rate US mail. The printed version comes out 7-10 later than the date each issue is available under the other two methods. And, due to cost considerations, the printed version is in black-and-white while it's in full color under the other two methods. Printing and postage costs continue to rise, so we are trying to convince as many members as possible to choose one of the two other methods. Each copy costs about \$2.25 to print and mail and the Post Office will not forward bulk rate mail. Each one returned for incorrect or insufficient address costs us an additional 45-65 cents in first class postage. Each returned newsletter is a waste of our resources and we're working hard to keep this waste to a minimum. PLEASE HELP BY NOTIFYING US OF ANY CHANGE IN YOUR POSTAL OR EMAIL ADDRESS.

ATTENTION "SNOWBIRD" MEMBERS: If your FL address is not your permanent mailing address but only a temporary Winter residence, please let us know that too! We'd rather your newsletter be waiting for you when you go back North than have it returned to us as undeliverable here in FL. It's each member's individual responsibility to see that we have your most current permanent mailing address.

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Both the "ONLINE" and "EMAIL" options cost us nothing to produce or send, while each "SNAIL MAIL" newsletter can cost as much as \$3 (if it's returned as undeliverable). If 100 of you now getting "SNAIL MAIL" opt for one of the other two options, that's \$300 we can save and use for other educational or charitable projects (e.g., increasing the annual FSMD scholarship award, printing and distributing Mayflower educational materials in our schools, donating "silver" books to local libraries, etc.). PLEASE HELP!!! Send an email to membership@flmayflower.com with your name, FL membership number and "ONLINE" or "EMAIL" in the subject line. If you're a "snowbird" and opt for "SNAIL MAIL," please give us your permanent mailing address in the body of the email. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!