



The Alabama Pilgrim

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama

Volume 68

www.alabamamayflowersociety.com

April 2020

Spring – Summer Edition



As of April 20, 2020 the 42nd Triennial Congress has been cancelled!
A Message from Governor General George P. Garmany inside.

**The Spring Meeting This May had to be cancelled.
Both due to the COVID-19 or Corona Virus Pandemic**

*Fall Meeting will be at The Club on Saturday October 31, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock A.M.
1 Robert S Smith Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 3520--126*

Notice of the Cancellation of the 42nd Triennial Congress

As we all know, the Coronavirus Pandemic has affected meetings, gatherings, and sporting events around the world. Travelers and large groups are particularly influenced by this terrible contagion, and those who need to make plans months ahead are struggling to cope with unknown factors. GSMD, which includes so many at-risk vulnerable people, is no exception. Massachusetts is currently operating in a state of emergency, and it is really impossible to predict when that emergency will end or whether it may occur again later this year.

Your Executive Committee is carefully considering how to balance the health of our members with the needs of our Society. After considerable review, it has been decided that we must cancel the Congress scheduled for September 2020. The Emergency Orders from Massachusetts will allow us some extra flexibility in how we conduct activities, and over the next two months or so we will work with the General Board to determine how we can conduct the essential business of our organization.

You may be interested to know that there is precedent for this action. During the Second World War, GSMD did not hold Congress in 1942, and the 1945 Congress was postponed until 1946.

We will try to reschedule the commemorative events that we planned for this year into the future, but those plans are all up in the air. Over the next two to three weeks we will refund all of the paid registration fees that our members and guests have made for 2020 – it will be a full refund. Please note: No action is required by Registrants at this time.

We are currently working through the mechanics of processing refunds to our members with our Registration Team. Full refunds will be processed without requesting them. If you paid for your reservations via credit card, you will receive a refund applied to your credit card. Once your refund is submitted for processing, you will receive an email notification from our Registration Team advising you of this processing: it will include an itemized receipt of the refund. If you placed reservations on separate days, you will receive multiple refunds, by reservation date. The refund process can take up to 10 business days once it is initiated. And because of timing differences, you may not see the credit until you receive your May credit card statement.

We have been in contact with our partners at the Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum regarding the Provincetown 400 events. At this time, they, too, are under a state of emergency. Their Board of Directors is considering options about their events, but no decision has been made at this time. Right now, their events are going-forward as planned. When a decision is made, I will send an additional communication to inform our members.

Please be sure to cancel any accommodation reservations you may have made on your own.

These are indeed extraordinary times. More than ever, the Society feels an enormous obligation to our members during this international crisis. But cancellation terms in our existing contracts must be met and paid for by GSMD, even though all the money to pay for these contracts is being refunded to our members. To help GSMD defray some of the significant costs for the cancellation of this event, won't you please consider donating back your registration fee or whatever you can afford? (Please send your donation via check, payable to GSMD.) We hope to plan commemorative events as soon as possible but will be unable to do so without restoring these depleted funds.

We all look forward to brighter days when we can bring our membership together and commemorate the 400th anniversary. We all will have much to be thankful for, when we are past this pandemic.

Governor General George P. Garmany, M.D.
April 20, 2020



Governor's Message

Dear Members
and Cousins:

I have to regret, that due to the COVID – 19 Corona Virus, and consideration to the health and safety of our members, we decided to cancel our Meeting that was scheduled for May 2nd in Prattville.

With the General Congress also being cancelled this year we can look forward to 2021 when the General Board of Assistants Meeting again will be back in Plymouth, Massachusetts to help celebrate the **First Thanksgiving** our Pilgrims ancestors had to celebrate their first bountiful harvest in this New Land along with the Wampanoag. I would imagine that some of the festivities that were planned this year may be moved to that time. Some of the activities this year may be celebrated with smaller attendance. The **General Board of Assistants** will meet via Zoom Video on Saturday June 20th to vote on amendments to the Bylaws that will raise Dues and Fees. If the proposed changes are passed, we will have to amend our Bylaws and raise our dues from \$30.00 to \$50.00. As a result of the Gen. BOA Meeting a Special Congress is set for September 26th Via Zoom to discuss the proposed Amendments and the election of General Officers. Ann and I will have detailed reports in the Fall Newsletter.

Let us be brave like our ancestors when 102 of them who traveled to a new land crowded in a small worn out merchant ship along with a crew of 30 they left Mother England to travel to the New World. They endured rickets, scurvy, starvation and a meriod of other diseases to seek a new life in the northern parts of the Virginia Colony, except they were blown off course to land on Cape Cod in late autumn with food supplies running out. As we all know, they had it rough the first hard winter when half of the Pilgrim Colonist and half the Maflower's crew perished. Yet, this did not stop them and they persevered and trudged through many hardships to settle in this strange new land as they described as **"A Most Hopeful Place"**.

In a happier note in the past year we had two wonderful meetings, our 2019 Spring Meeting at the Battle House Motel in Mobile and the Compact Day Meeting at the American Village in Montevallo. To start off Year 2020 and if you tuned your TV to watch the **2020 Rose Bowl Parade** and saw the California's/ General Society's float that was the second float in the parade with Governor General George Garmany dressed in green and with a beard, standing on the front, waving to the crowd. This was a great representation and publicity for the Society. Our own A.G. Ann Ferguson and her husband John was there to help decorate the float in the final days before the parade and was there to view the parade in Pasadena. The Parade was featured in the spring edition of the **Mayflower Quarterly**.

We had a wonderful time in Mobile this past February 23rd celebrating **Mardi Gras** at the invitation of **Le Krewe de Bienville**. Through the efforts of Brenda Gouge, when coordinating accommodations for our Mobile Meeting, the hotel events coordinator, who is a member of the Krewe, when told it was our 400th Anniversary graciously offered to our Society the use of one of their floats for that

occasion. This was a rare chance indeed -- you cannot just decide to participate in a Mardi Gras parade in Mobile. You must be invited to do so, and we were. We had twenty riders who joined the celebration and festivities that came from as far away South Dakota, Louisiana, and Florida.

I would like to thank all those members, who could not attend but, who made donations toward the preparations and supplies. The **Alabama Heritage Magazine** did a blog on our participation in the parade with is good publicity and we thank them for that.

On a sadder note we have had four officers of the Board to resign their positions. This is the first time since I've been a member that this has happened. I would also like to encourage all members to attend their Colony Meetings. I will be appointing a Nominating Committee this Fall to select officers for the next term. We are also saddened by the deaths of Mrs. Marie Karlson and Mr. John L. Medbery, they will both be missed.

Sincerely - Alan M. Davis, Governor

Governor – Alan M. Davis, 334-207-4884

Deputy Governor – Brenda Gouge 334-222-0347

Secretary – Nancy C. Logan 205-515-2007

Treasurer – Patricia S. Harper 256-996-4115

Historian – Mark F. Chesebro 205-520-8978

Elder – Regena C. Dawson 256-852-6800

Captain – Anne T. Kilgrew 334-669-1826

Librarian – Vacant – (Change name to Archivist?)

Board of Assistants - Members-at-large –

Amy R. Hill-Price 334-201-9486

Linda Alcott Maples 256-534-2315

Pamela J. Pittman 334-279-7976

Gulf Coast Colony Member

Colony Lieutenant Governors

Kevin D. Sellew – *Gulf Coast* 251-510-8302

Vacant – *Capital*

Vacant – *Tennessee Valley*

M. Inge Tingle – *Cahaba River* 205-903-4875

Past Governors – Dr. Mary Alice Carmichael, Rev. Dr. Sidney Leak, Charlotte Hobson, Ann King, Ann Ferguson, Mary Helen Mahan, Dr Richard Hobson, and Ellie Lienau

Newsletter Editor -Alan Davis E-Mail amd7thcedar@charter.net

Junior Members Chair – Vacant

General Society Officers

These two Officers represent the Alabama Society on the General Board of Assistants of the General Society.

Deputy Governor General – Alan Davis 334-207-4884

Assistant General – Ann Ferguson 256-537-3772



COMPACT DAY LUNCHEON AT THE AMERICAN VILLAGE – MONTCELLO AL

**COMPACT DAY MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 2, 2019**

Meeting called to order at 11:14 PM by Governor Alan Davis.

The Prayer was led by Elder Regena Dawson.

Reading of Objects and Compact by Elder Regena Dawson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Governor Alan Davis.

Governor Alan Davis welcomed everyone.

The minutes of the previous meeting were not read as they had been published in the newsletter. There was only one correction – Regena Dawson’s name was misspelled. There were no other corrections and the minutes were accepted as presented. Alan requested that everyone make sure that we have current email addresses so that we can email the Newsletter instead of having to mail them as mailing is expensive. Personal information will not be made public and are for the use of the Society only.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Governor Alan Davis – No report.

Deputy Governor Brenda Gouge – No report

Secretary Nancy Logan – No report.

Treasurer Patricia Harper – Pat stated that we are in good shape financially, her report was published in the Newsletter. We do have over \$17,000 dollars in the bank. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact her. She asked that everyone pay their yearly dues today if possible. Pat asked that we need current email addresses, please give them to her so that we can keep our files up to date. Email is how she communicates with people mostly.

Historian Mark Chesbro – Mark was not present, but his report was published in the Newsletter. His report stated that there were 23 new members ~~so far in 2019~~, and 12 new supplementals so far in 2019. There was been a large influx of applications in anticipation of the 2020 celebration., the number of applications has increased by 450% over previous years! Alabama has eleven membership applications still pending in Plymouth.

Elder Regena Dawson – There have been three members to pass away in 2019: Faye Belt Ireland in April, she was a lift member, Dr. Ashley Lindley died in August, and Marie Ann Carlson died in October. Please remember those families in prayer. Please ask your family to notify the Society of a death of a member so that we can keep our records current.

Captain Ann Kilgrew – Not present.

Librarian Carol Kitchen – Carol resigned as Librarian due to health issues. It was discussed in the Board of Assistants meeting earlier today that we might change the title of Librarian to Archivist in the future as this position is responsible for keeping information about the Alabama Society. Some of the old minute books are missing if anyone knows where they are please let Alan know.

Board of Assistants – Amy Price, Linda Maples and Pam Pittman not present.

Mary Helen Mahan told everyone that she has a whole box of old Mayflower Quarterly magazines that belonged to her Mother and she is selling them. If anyone is interested in them, please see her after the meeting. The money from the sale of these books will go to the Capital Colony. Alan Davis said that these books are very interesting, and that Alabama has been very active in the Quarterly in the past few years thanks to Ann Ferguson and Kevin Sellew.

Deputy Governor General - Alan Davis – Alan has been serving as DGG for over 20 years and been to most of the GBOA meetings during that time. **(His report is in the Fall Newsletter)**

Assistant Governor General - Ann Ferguson -

Alan Davis and I represented Alabama as Deputy Governor General and Assistant General respectively at the General Board of Assistants meeting in Denver, CO, September 6-7, 2019. Our Governor General, Dr. George Garmany, described the state of affairs at GSMD as “good, but could be better.” We are on track for finalizing the plans and events for the 2020 commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower. This can be found on our GSMD website. The excitement and anticipation of this event has turned in to a bit of a mixed blessing. Applications keep increasing, which of course is a good thing, but there currently is not enough staff to work them timely and the processing time has increased to fifteen weeks. Plus, our Executive Director has determined that it actually costs \$125.00 for every application but our current fee is only \$75.00 resulting in a loss of \$50.00 per application and a total loss of \$179,000.00 for the year. This

deficit is being made up for by current members. Since the current application fee is in the By-laws it cannot be changed until the next General Congress in 2020. Look for that to be increased then. One-time 2020 expenditures have also resulted in drained finances. The result is that although staffing has increased, it is still not adequate; cuts have been made to travel and some meetings are not being held face-to-face; the website and phone system are lacking in needed upgrades; and the percentage taken from reserves had to be increased from 4% to 5%. In spite of all efforts to reduce spending, there was still a small \$5,000.00 deficit in the \$1.6 million budget. Look for an increase in our annual per capita at the 2020 General Congress.

The good news is that GSMD has \$12.4 million in assets. The audit was completed with no findings. A new heat and air system was installed in the Mayflower House so that it can be used year-round, including being rented out as a venue. It also is to be painted. The Mayflower Store found on the GSMD website has many items for sale, including some specifically for 2020, which raises funds for GSMD. Sales are increasing. Genealogy lectures in Plymouth have started and are very popular. They are being recorded and will eventually be put on the website. Also, a program that member societies could use at meetings is being developed and will be put on the website. Silver Books are continuing to be researched, published, and sold, which is another source of funds.

It was announced that the 2021 GBOA meeting will be in Plymouth to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving and the 2022 meeting will be in Minnesota.

2020 Updates:

Regarding the 2020 commemorative coin, FGG Lea Filson met with officials in Washington, D. C. to discuss design options. The Secretary of the Treasury makes the final decision. The sale of these coins issued by the U. S. Mint will not result in any financial gain for our Society.

A 14.5-inch model of the Governor William Bradford monument to be placed in the Mayflower House garden was on display at the closing banquet. It gives the impression of elegance and sophistication in portraying Governor Bradford.

The GSMD entry in the 2020 Tournament of Roses Parade is in the process of being built. An artist's depiction of the float was on display. Governor General Garmany will be riding on the float as well as several others in historically accurate Pilgrim attire. The parade is watched by 50 million people worldwide, so this will bring unprecedented attention to our Society. The float is even being considered to be selected as the first float in the parade. I am going to California in December to volunteer to help with the final decoration of the float. I am not aware of anyone else from our state planning to do this, so I will be representing Alabama in this endeavor.

In Plymouth private tours are being offered by GSMD of Mayflower House and the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse to Society members. Outside renovations of the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse are projected to be completed by the end of this year. The whole town of Plymouth is being spruced up in anticipation of the influx of visitors in 2020. I have three days of upcoming school visits scheduled at two different schools in my area starting on Monday, November 4, 2019.

Alan Davis stated that authentic Pilgrim clothes are available online. The Pilgrims were colorful and not always austere like they are depicted. There is a lot to see if you visit Plymouth. The GSMD has been preparing for 2020 for over ten years. The GSMD purchased the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse this year which is the site of the original Pilgrim church. Alabama donated \$5,000 to this effort.

There were no committee ~~meetings~~ Reports.

COLONY REPORTS:

Gulf Coast Colony – Kevin Sellew – There was not Spring meeting of the Gulf Coast Colony due to his health issues. The Gulf Coast Colony hosted the SMDAL at the Spring meeting. Their next meeting will be in two weeks at Felix' Fish Camp in Mobile. Daniel Duvall will be honored at this meeting. Mr. Duvall was the first Mayflower descendant to settle in Alabama. He is buried in Mobile. Kevin also reminded everyone that the Gulf Coast Colony is selling t-shirts to raise money for the Colony. He had samples of the shirts so that everyone could see them. They can be ordered online.

Capital Colony- Lt. Gov. Ed Phillips was not present but **Mary Helen Mahan** gave a report: The meeting dates will be posted on the SMDAL website. The next SMDAL meeting will be hosted by the Capital Colony and will be held on May 2, 2020. The meeting will be held in Prattville Alabama at the Buena Vista Mansion.

Tennessee Valley Colony – Stacy Smith – Not present.

Cahaba River Colony Inge Tingle – There was no spring meeting but hopefully there will be on in the spring of 2020.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Our Society will have a float in the Mardi Gras parade in Mobile in February 23, 2020. Mobile has the oldest Mardi Gras parade in the country. Brenda Gouge told everyone about the plans for our float in the parade. Anyone can ride on the float on a first-come-first-serve basis. There is a cost associated with riding the float. Each member who participates will have to pay for the cost of their throws which will be approximately \$300 dollars. Approximately 25 to 28 people can ride on the float. People can also walk alongside of the float for a lesser cost. You must be in costume in some form, a mask is required. Mary Helen Mahan moved that GSMDAL contribute

\$2,500 towards the cost of the float. The motion was seconded and passed. This would cover the cost of the float rental, the cost of the driver and insurance. We have to make a commitment within the next two months. If you would like to ride on the float contact Brenda Gouge or Alan Davis, their contact information is on the website. In Alabama this is our main publicity for the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Mayflower in the New World.

There was no other business.

Alan Davis adjourned the meeting at 12:13PM.

We publish these unapproved minutes for two reasons. Most important is so that members who were unable to attend will learn of our activities as noted at our Society's meetings. We believe you will find something of interest and will decide to attend on a future occasion. The other reason is so that those who attend might be better prepared to approve the minutes without having them read at the meetings, saving everyone's meeting time.

ARE YOU INTERESTED ON SERVING ON THE ALABAMA MAYFLOWER SOCIETY BOARD?

It is time to take names for positions for the 2020-2023 Board. In addition to officers positions, you can become a Board Assistant to get your feet wet. If you are interested, contact Gov. Alan M. Davis at 334-207-4884 or E-Mail address amd7thcedar@charter.net

From the Desk of Patricia S. Harper, SMDAL Treasurer...

Where we stand as of March 7, 2020:

Checking/Savings as of Nov 2, 2019		\$17,153.62
Dues received (prepaid is \$120)	4,550.00	
Contributions (not including designated)	30.00	
Application fees (our portion)	100.00	
Interest received	28.68	
Mardi Gras Float (remaining funds)	55.64	4,764.32
Meetings (net expense)/ includes \$2500 for Mardi Gras float	2,481.00	
GSMD Dues/Fees	4,190.00	
Application Fees paid/prepaid	225.00	
Meetings attended	300.00	
Operating Expenses (printing, books, postage)(Total expenditures)	649.36	7,845.36
Checking/Savings as of March 7, 2020		
Plus, prepaid application fees (deposited with GSMD)		\$14,072.58

Bank Balances:

Checking	\$ 3,475.39
Life Dues Account	\$2,942.63
CD #1	\$3,798.80
CD #2	\$3,855.76
TOTAL	\$14,072.58

Dues paid to GSMD were \$15/member...we have 271 active members of which 50 are life members and their dues are paid from the Life Dues bank account we have.

44 members have not yet paid 2020 dues, but we hope to close the books on this by April and disburse colony checks.

Lt. Governors: Please send me your roster so that I can check it against my list. We want to make sure you receive dues for everyone in your colony...but I am not a mind reader. Some members did not designate a colony on their dues' renewal form.

By the way...you may make payments to SMDAL via PayPal

www.PayPal.com is the web site.

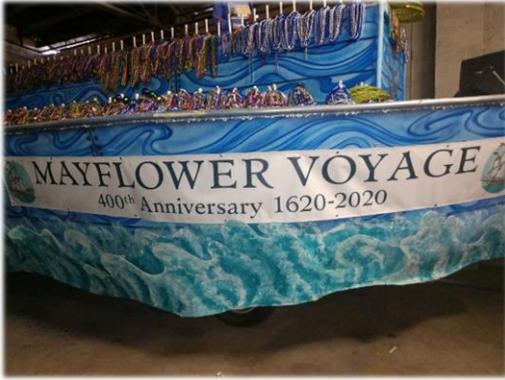
SMDAL.TREASURER@gmail.com is our account. If you do use PayPal, please add 4% to whatever you pay to cover the cost of using PayPal. I am happy to answer questions.

Phone: 256-996-4115; Email: SMDAL.TREASURER@gmail.com

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are deductible as allowed by law.

2020 Mobile Mardi Gras Parade

Laissez les bon temps rouler!



Our Society was invited in this 400th anniversary year to have a float in the *Krewe de Bienville Mardi Gras Parade* in Mobile, Alabama. We were offered the rental of a float that was a ship - complete with cannons and foaming water underneath the bow! After receiving approval by the board and the members, we got to work and ordered banners commemorating the **400th Anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower**. A sign-up system was established for riders, and all those who wanted to ride were accommodated. We had 20 riders on our float, which was just the right number. Because it was a Mardi Gras parade, riders were required to provide their

own throws or purchase them from the Krewe.

Riders came from South Dakota, Louisiana, Florida and Alabama. Those members who were on the float were Gov. /D.G.G. - Alan & Darlene Davis, Dep. Gov. - Brenda & Stan Gouge, Lt. Gov. Gulf Coast Colony - Kevin Sellow, Gulf Coast Colony Capt. - Jeremy Sellow, Cahaba River Colony Lt. Gov. - Inge Tingle & Charlie Tingle, South Dakota D.G.G & A.G. Carter & Sharon Wiese in Pilgrim Costume, David & Lee Myers Getzinger from Louisiana, Bryan & Yasmin House from Florida, Sawyer & Alyssa House, Marie Sanford, Mallie Moss Steele, and Karen & Tom Peterson from Alabama.



The parade was on **Joe Cain Day** in Mobile, on Sunday, February 23rd. Riders assembled at the float barn early that morning to load in their throws (which was a lot of heavy work) and then changed into either pilgrim costumes or Mardi Gras costumes or the SMD-AL Mayflower T-shirts. The floats were transported to the beginning of the parade, and the riders were taken in school buses to the area where they would board the



floats. There were a lot of high-spirited people who were on the other floats.



The weather was absolutely perfect - a beautiful Spring-like day. The estimated crowd in the streets of Mobile was 101,000 people. All the riders loaded up on the float and the music started, and we began the parade. It was tons of fun - very noisy, people 30 and 40 deep - all yelling for throws and waving to us. We had some frisbees with Mayflower stickers on them, and some rubber ducks with pilgrim hats, in addition to the regular Mardi Gras beads and

footballs and cups and hula hoops. Kevin Sellow, the Lt. Governor of the Gulf Coast colony, handed out pilgrim hats to all - they had the 400th anniversary commemorative stickers on them, so we all wore those, as well.



The actual parade took about an hour and a half to meander its way through downtown Mobile. The crowd was massive all along the way. The Alabama Society's outreach for the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower was well received. Alabama Heritage magazine did a blog report on this historic Mayflower float in a Mardi Gras parade, which can be found at alabamaheritage.com - And it has photos and a link to videos of the parade. – Brenda Gouge



Mayflower Float an Award Winner in 2020 Tournament of Roses Parade

By Ann Ferguson, SMDAL Assistant General

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in California for the past several years has coordinated with the Tournament of Roses Parade to design, apply, and be approved to enter a float in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower in the 2020 parade. As the final step the California Society put out a request to all GSMD members to help decorate the float. I traveled to California the day after Christmas and worked on the float for three of the five days allowed to complete all decorating prior to January 1. A total of over 3,000 volunteer hours were provided. It was quite the experience to watch the progress as the float came together, from a basic frame to our Mayflower beautifully covered in roses, seeds, coconut, orchids, pumpkins, gourds, and many other varieties of flowers and flower petals. It was with great pride that we watched our Mayflower float sail down Colorado Boulevard during the New Year's Day 2020 Tournament of Roses Parade in front of more



than 700,000 spectators and a broadcast audience of more than 50 million viewers.



than 700,000 spectators and a broadcast audience of more than 50 million viewers.

The theme of this year's parade was "The Power of Hope" and the Mayflower float was entitled "The Voyage of Hope." She won the "Americana Award!"





HISTORIAN & SECRETARY REPORTS

By Mark Chesebro & Nancy Logan

NEW MEMBERS

Name	GEN. No. /State No.	Ancestor	
Nancy Elizabeth Smith Pike	95913/ 660	Thomas Rogers	11 th in Descent
Lucy Catherine Pierce Siddle	95978/ 661	John Alden	11 th in Descent
Diane Elaine Cook Pretzer	96000/ 662	Francis Cooke	11 th in Descent
Connie Anne Gorum Harris	96034/ 663	William Brewster	14 th in Descent
Richard Wayne McLaney	96228/ 664	Edward Doty	11 th in Descent
Kathryn McLaney Wooddale	96229/ 665	Edward Doty	12 th in Descent
Brenda Lou Reinhart Severance	96255/ 666	Edward Fuller	11 th in Descent
Dianne Dexter Hammond Wick	96361/ 667	William White	11 th in Descent
Nancy Carol Seller Klooz	96407/ 668	Stephen Hopkins	12 th in Descent
Erin Ann Caden Rogers	96408/ 669	John Alden	13 th in Descent
Larry Van Gentry	96502/ 670	William Bradford	12 th in Descent
Patricia Dubois Flasz	96661/ 671	John Howland	10 th in Descent
Kingston Clifton Kyle, Sr.	96693/ 672	Edward Fuller	12 th in Descent

SUPPLEMENTALS

Patricia Anne Stover Harper	91163/ 594	William Brewster	13 th in Descent
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TRANSFERS OUT

Barbara Blanchard	91812/ 651	Stephen Hopkins	13 th in Descent to Massachusetts
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RESIGNATIONS

Katherine Yancey Avant	28-Jan-2019	78784/455	William Bradford	13 th in Descent
Mary Avant Lell	28-Jan-2019	78785/456	William Bradford	14 th in Descent
Janis lee Scruggs Smith	31-Dec-2020	90387/566	Stephen Hopkins	13 th in Descent

MEMBERS DROPPED

Edward T. Harrison	31-Dec-2019	75825/444	William Brewster	12 th in Descent
Carolyn Norman Huett	31-Dec-2019	85276/506	Stephen Hopkins	14 th in Descent
Elizabeth Ray Price Hughes	31-Dec-2019	91108/591	Myles Standish	9 th in Descent
Margaret Woodward Givhan Ragland	31-Dec-2019	24386/97	James Chilton	13 th in Descent
Andrew Scott	31-Dec-2019	79555/474	William Brewster	12 th in Descent
Mallie Moss Steele	31-Dec-2019	93873/629	William Brewster	11 th in Descent
Willis Scott Estis	31-Dec-2019	92549/616	William Brewster	12 th in Descent
Caitlan McDaniel Singletary	31-Dec-2019	90446/572	John Tilly	13 th in Descent

NOTE: Due to the COVID-19 Virus the Mayflower office was closed for the month of April will reopen May 4, 2020.

Please contact us about Supplemental Applications you want to submit. This is a good time for Supplementals, or to have your family members apply. The Plymouth Staff agree to work expeditiously with us.

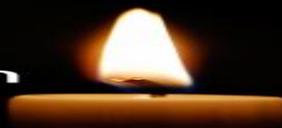
NOTE: Also, there has been a 450% increase in applications over the last five years being sent to Plymouth and the verification time has increased to an average of four and a half months.

ELDER'S REPORT by Regena Dawson

N.B., in some cases, *in memoriam* information may be incomplete, or otherwise incorrect. Often, complete such information unfortunately does not reach our Society when a death occurs. In many cases, it is well after the fact that we learn of a death. Current Members would be very thoughtful to tell your families to notify the Sectary or Treasurer or one of the other State or Colony Officers when the time comes.

Would all Colonies notify me of the death of any member? You would be kind to send the following information: Name, Colony, SMDAL & GSMD Numbers, the Ancestor Descended From, Date of Death, Obituary if available. Thank you. Regena Dawson, 3107 Ray Blair Place, Huntsville, Alabama 35811-8908. Telephone: 256-852-6800, RegenaCampbellDawson@gmail.com.

In Memoriam



Marie Ann Karlson Was a member of the Tennessee Valley Colony died on October 20 at the age of 80 years, 10 months and 15 days. Marie was born in Minneapolis, MN to parents Hazel Fallstrom LaValley and Charles LaValley, and joined three years later by a younger sister, Vicki. From age four to 12, Marie lived in St. Louis, before returning again to Minneapolis where she attended St. Louis Park High School, captaining a basketball team that became known as "the Lilies of LaValley". While obtaining a teaching degree from the University of Minnesota, she met the love of her life, William John Karlson, marrying in 1959. Thereafter, Marie dedicated herself to a career of nurturing the many fortunate children that found themselves her students, pausing only to raise to school age her own lucky children. Guided by Bill's career during this pause, the family moved to Kwajalein Island, RMI, for three years, having her second child there, before accepting opportunities in Huntsville in 1970 where Marie restarted her teaching career at West Mastin Lake Elementary and dedicated herself to Huntsville's children there for 22 years until her retirement in 1997. In retirement, she delved into genealogy, helping many discover their family histories, and took an active role in the Society of Mayflower Descendants, serving as local director for a time. She had

numerous hobbies throughout her life at which she was excellent; including sewing, cross stitching, and Sudoku. Marie blessed everyone she knew and touched and improved so many lives. Cheerful and positive, she was a bright and loving light to all who knew her. Marie was preceded in death by her father (1987), mother (2011), and sister (2017), and she was 1/2 of the most beautiful, patient, and loving of marriages until Bill's passing in August 2018. She will be greatly missed by her loving children; Keith Karlson and Karin Slayton, her son-in-law, Tracy Slayton; and the many wonderful extended family and friends she leaves behind, including hundreds of former students blessed by her generous care and loving guidance. Visitation will be from 4 to 6 p.m. on Monday, October 28 at Laughlin Service Funeral Home, with a brief memorial service immediately following. Memorials may be made to the [American Cancer Society](http://www.americancancersociety.org). (www.laughlinservice.com) Published in The Huntsville Times on Oct. 23, 2019



Mr. John L. Medbery He was a member of the Gulf Coast Colony and served as the Lt. Governor of the Colony died on December 23, 2019. Funeral Services for John L. Medbery of Foley, AL were held on Saturday, January 18, at All Saints Anglican Church, 901 A. North New Warrington Road at Martha Avenue, P.O. Box 4538, Pensacola, FL 32507 at 11:00 am with Rev. Matthew Mahan officiating. Interment site will be held in Browns Valley, MN at a later date. Surviving are: Anne B. Medbery, wife, Foley, AL, Linda A. Johnson, daughter, Cedar Park, TX, Barbara E. Bendele, daughter, Loveland, CO, Mary J. Medbery, daughter, Foley, AL; in addition: 6 grandchildren, Sharon Johnson, Jessica Taylor, Mark Johnson, Christopher Bendele, Adam Bendele and Matthew Bretschneider and four great grandchildren. Published in the Mobile Press Register on Jan. 17, 2020



Former Governor General Edward Sullivan passed away at the age of 87 on March 21, 2020 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. He graduated from Harding High School, earned his Bachelor degree from the University of Conn, and his Juris Doctorate of Law from the University of OK, where he was stationed in the Air Force. He served 30 years in the U.S. Air Force JAG Corps and retired as a Colonel. Edward married his grade school sweetheart and love of his life Elizabeth (Betty) Wilhelmina Frank in 1954. They had seven daughters: Elizabeth (Jeffrey Rolfe), Kathleen (Carl Fleming), Maureen (Kenneth Fengler), Caroline (Daniel Piper), Alice (Curtis Tucker), April (Mark Fitzgerald) and Virginia. There are 14 grandchildren, Jennifer and Jeffrey Rolfe, Carl and Michael Fleming, Westin and Garrett Fengler, Elizabeth and Christopher Piper, Curtis and Chad Tucker, Catherine, Charlotte, Mathew and Elizabeth (Lisa) Fitzgerald; and three great-grandchildren (Porter Rolfe Hale, Raleigh and Kolby Fengler).

Ed was always quick with a smile, enjoyed talking as he was blessed with the Irish gift of gab. He loved his family, the beach, boats and old cars. Ed was active in the Sons of the American Revolution and became the Governor General of the General Society of the Mayflower Descendants. Edward leaves behind siblings Joan Sullivan Kelly

(Harry), Joseph Sullivan (Lenore), Daniel Sullivan (Lucille), Brien Sullivan, John Sullivan and many nieces and nephews. Donations may be made to Edward Delano Sullivan Scholarship fund courtesy of The General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants Edward Delano Sullivan Scholarship, Hank Dressel, Treasurer 4127 Salmon Drive Orlando, Florida 32835.

Published in Sun-Sentinel on Mar. 26, 2020

Dress Like A Pilgrim

by Ann Ferguson, Assistant General

At the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the General Board of Assistants at the September 2018 GBOA meeting in St. Charles, Illinois, voted to approve the initiative called, "Dress Like a Pilgrim" for the 2020 Congress. Regarding obtaining Pilgrim costumes, the winter 2018 issue of "The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine" on page 5 has a short article on Vicki Smith, a South Carolina GSMD member, who custom makes Pilgrim costumes. She has set a fundraising goal to donate her profits to the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse for ten ladies' Mayflower costumes she makes. She can be contacted at VickiSmith@aol.com.

I have been in contact with Jane Holt Wong, Costume Coordinator, for our General Society of Mayflower Descendants' "Voyage of Hope – 1620-2020" float in the January 1, 2020, Tournament of Roses Parade, and she has emailed me extensive information about their criteria for the

historically correct Pilgrim costumes to be worn by those selected to walk with our float in the parade. Women's, men's, and children's costumes must be completely authentic to the time period 1600 to 1627 and must be made from natural materials, *i.e.*, wool and linen. Everything must have an authentic look from head covering to shoes.

Here in Alabama, most of us will probably not be able to make, purchase, or otherwise obtain such genuinely historically correct (and expensive) Pilgrim costumes. However, as I know from personal experience, it is possible to study photographs of the re-enactors at Plimoth Plantation and come up with a modified Pilgrim costume that has the look of the real thing. I made a costume from thrift store items that has served me well in presenting the Mayflower story to thrilled and excited young elementary school children. I plan to wear my Pilgrim costume at our 2020 SMDAL meetings. So, in keeping with the initiative "Dress Like a Pilgrim," will someone be joining me?

PS: The GSMD's website now has useful information pertaining to Pilgrim costuming. www.themayflowersociety.org/blog/dress-like-a-pilgrim.



Junior Membership

The Alabama Society would keep bright the Pilgrims' memory, cherish their heritage of liberty and freedom for which they sacrificed so much, and hand it on to new generations. SMDAL members are encouraged to sponsor young relatives for Junior Membership. **Junior Members whose information may need updating are listed in this *Newsletter's Further Announcements*.**

Notice: Anyone who wishes to serve as the Juniors Chair please contact Alan Davis

Junior Membership application

An applicant must be sponsored by a GSMD member in good standing, be under 18 years of age, and be the sponsor's lineal or collateral descendant. There is a one-time fee of \$10, payable to the SMDAL. A birth certificate may be requested. Junior members are not GSMD members. However, the SMDAL recognizes them and issues them a State society junior membership number. Junior members may not vote or hold office. At age 18, a junior member may transfer to GSMD membership provided the GSMD approves a usual lineage application. Such transfer to GSMD membership is encouraged before age 25. Junior members will be dropped from the SMDAL roll if they have not transferred to GSMD membership by age 25. **Please provide the following information to Stacy Smith with the \$10 fee:**

Junior applicant name:

Sponsor *Mayflower* ancestor(s):

Junior applicant birth date:

Sponsor name and relationship:

Junior applicant mailing address:

Sponsor mailing address:

Junior applicant e-mail:

Sponsor e-mail & SMDAL Colony:

My personal Mayflower Voyage – New topic for newsletter.

A SPECIAL NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

We warmly welcome all the New and Potential Alabama Mayflower Society members who came in since our last meeting in Montevallo. You are our fellow relatives, and we will greet you with pleasure on Saturday morning, October 31, 11:00 a.m., at our Compact Day Meeting and luncheon in Birmingham - Hoover at The Club.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants

*By their presents does hereby authorize the formation of
a Society of Mayflower Descendants, with all the powers
and privileges thereto appertaining in the State of*



Alabama

the following members having signed and filed a request for a Charter with Secretary General:

*Myra Browne Koenig, Mary D. Craig, Louis W. Norris, Mable M. Simpson, Frederick G. Koenig, Jr.,
Carrie G. R. Weissinger, Bradford C. Colcord, Dora N. Walker, Helen N. Bell, Edwina W. Whiteside,
Ninnette E. Abernathy, Amelia R. Jackson, Edna M. Greiner, Allen Bales, Antoinette A. Wadsworth,
Harriet D. Murphy, Marina B. Vandenberg, Anita M. Naff, Margaret L. Fell, Elizabeth D. Miller,
Anita D. Leslie, Paul E. Norris, Floyd E. Neikirk, Margaret W. Spencer, Joseph H. Woodward, II,
Bertha V. Ringland, Edith M. Smith, James A. Smith, Jr., Roberta S. Henderson, Marea R. Neikirk,
Margaret W. Givhan, Charlie May R. Beck.*

In Witness Whereof, the seal of this Society has been
affixed by order of the Board of Trustees on this
day of _____ Nineteen hundred and _____



Secretary General

Governor General

Copy of the Alabama Society's Charter as would have appeared in 1952

General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD)

4 Winslow Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360-3313

Founded at Plymouth in 1897

Welcome! Any passenger who arrived in Cape Cod Bay on the *Mayflower* is considered a Pilgrim, with no distinction to be made based on their original purpose(s) for making that voyage. See www.themayflowersociety.org/join.

After working on an application with the historian of one of many GSMD Mayflower Societies, any person able to document their descent from one or more of the following *Mayflower* Pilgrims is eligible and most welcome to apply for GSMD membership:

John Alden	Francis Cooke	Priscilla Mullins
Bartholomew Allerton	John Cooke	William Mullins
Isaac Allerton	Edward Doty	Degory Priest
Mary (Norris) Allerton	Francis Eaton	Joseph Rogers
Mary Allerton	Samuel Eaton	Thomas Rogers
Remember Allerton	Sarah () Eaton	Henry Samson
Elinor Billington	Moses Fletcher	George Soule
Francis Billington	Edward Fuller	Myles Standish
John Billington	Mrs. Edward Fuller	Elizabeth Tilley
William Bradford	Samuel Fuller	John Tilley
Love Brewster	Samuel Fuller (son of Edw.)	Joan (Hurst) Tilley
Mary () Brewster	Constance Hopkins	Richard Warren
William Brewster	Elizabeth (Fisher) Hopkins	Peregrine White
Peter Browne	Giles Hopkins	Resolved White
James Chilton	Stephen Hopkins	Susanna (Jackson) White
Mrs. James Chilton	John Howland	William White
Mary Chilton	Richard More	Edward Winslow

Many families hold a tradition that they are descended from the Pilgrims, which often kindles an interest in finding out more. As the Mayflower Society website observes, sometimes the stories of a *Mayflower* heritage are true, and it is easy to document a line of descent. More often, the documentation is missing and must be researched and supplied to prove one's line.



The good news is that advanced research techniques, improved genealogy library collections, and computerized resources have made the process easier. *Within each generation, you must provide proof of the birth, marriage, and death of the lineage carrier, and the birth and death of the spouse.* The best vital records are the birth, marriage, and death certificates for each person. Other documentation might include published genealogies, family documents, and other official records. If you have a relative who is a GSMD member, you may be able to use their lineage documentation to help you with your own documentation research. Also, proof of lineage from the Pilgrims through at least the earliest generations can be found in *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations*, i.e., the ongoing GSMD "Silver Books." As indicated above, GSMD memberships are handled through individual Member Societies, including our own Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama (SMDAL). To receive a membership application and lineage research guidance, contact the Member



Society through which you want to apply. Member Society contact data are available on the GSMD website, as well as in a downloadable Membership brochure providing other such helpful membership information: www.themayflowersociety.org. **If you want to inquire about Alabama Mayflower Society membership, or if you are an existing SMDAL member and wish to encourage someone else to inquire about SMDAL membership, please contact or encourage others to contact our friendly, competent Historian Mark Chesebro: cell telephone, 205-520-8978; mchesebro@yahoo.com.** You may contact the GSMD with membership questions or for general information (508-746-3188; membership@themayflowersociety.org). You also can use for a fee the GSMD website "Mayflower Lineage Match Form", www.themayflowersociety.org. GSMD staff will work to provide you a report comparing your proposed family line to the GSMD database from over 90,000 accepted members since 1897. Such information is available only to the GSMD national office and not to professional researchers. Again, welcome!

COLONY ACTIVITIES

GULF COAST COLONY: The philosophy our Colony is following in regard to our 2020 activities is two-fold -- **Visibility** and **Inclusion**.

The Rose Parade float was an excellent example of **Visibility** for Mayflower descendants on a national stage.

Closer to home we are endeavoring to increase the **Visibility** of our Colony and, thus, our State Society. Examples include:

- Colony members and their families are participating in as many local and regional parades as we can.
- Colony members are conducting Mayflower Lineage Workshops at various libraries in our part of the state.
- Plans are in the works for a fall seminar at a local university for elementary, middle and secondary school teachers to give them the knowledge and resources to properly present the Pilgrim story to their students leading up to the Thanksgiving season.
- This year is our **"Do You Have Pilgrims in YOUR Family Tree?"** campaign. Posters and flyers, which direct people to our website, are being distributed to all libraries, archives, museums, senior centers, welcome centers, probate court offices, etc.
- Press Kits for TV, Radio and Print media are being sent out and followed up by phone.
- We continue our Colony fund-raiser with the Mayflower 400 Emblem T-Shirts. The emblem is full-chest size to increase the **Visibility** of the message. Those who have purchased them (who hail from all over the USA) wear them out in public, not just at Mayflower gatherings. We've received an abundance of anecdotes telling us how many comments they get from people.

Regarding **Inclusion** we are planning activities that reach out to our relatives who are also Mayflower descendants but not members of the Society. Examples include:

- The aforementioned parade experiences.
- An afternoon water excursion on a wooden sailing vessel.
- A Mayflower Descendants Family Reunion where we will do "family reunion" things like a pot-luck family meal, family photos of each of the different Mayflower families (all the Howland/Tilley/Hurst descendants, all the Brewster descendants, etc.) plus games (like Pilgrim Trivia/Bingo)
- We're even planning a Pilgrim Costume Ball to end the year.
- All this is **in addition to** our annual Spring Meeting / Luncheon and our annual Compact Day Commemoration Meeting / Luncheon.

On a national scale, we would like GSMD to provide opportunities that are too big and/or too expensive for states and colonies, such as:

- Continue the Rose Parade float each year as well as other nationally televised parades, like Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.
- Create Mayflower/Pilgrim-themed viral videos that can be passed around on social media. Videos that are FUN as well as informative.
- Offer live and recorded video content that State Societies and Colonies can utilize for their meetings. We would **love** to expose our members to renowned Mayflower and Mayflower Society people live via teleconference.
- Create Press Kits that are customizable with state and colony websites and contact info.
- Create a campaign or program that states can use to educate children in elementary and secondary schools.

Information about our Colony's activities, about our Mayflower 400 Emblem T-Shirts and my contact information can all be found on our Colony's webpage: www.GulfCoastMayflowerColony.org

VISIT Our Gulf Coast Colony Webpage: www.GulfCoastMayflowerColony.org

CHECK OUT Our Gulf Coast Colony Shirt Shop:
www.MayflowerShirts.com (Coming **very** soon. Keep checking, please.)

LIKE and **FOLLOW** Our Gulf Coast Colony Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/GulfCoastMayflowerColony

Kevin Sellew, Lieutenant Governor. 251-510-8302; tjk5405@mediacombb.net

CAPITAL COLONY: Lt. Governor Edward H. Phillips the Capital Colony resigned his position due to the possibility of relocation. Due to the onset of COVID -19 Corona virus no meeting was held for the Winter – Spring period. The Colony's next meeting date and time will be tentatively in July or August. – Alan Davis - Governor.

TENNESSEE VALLEY COLONY: Lt. Governor Stacy Smith resigned his position due to personal reasons. Due to the onset of COVID -19 Corona virus no meeting was held for the Winter – Spring period. The Colony's next meeting date and time will be tentatively in July or August or in the Fall. – Linda Maples

Cahaba River Colony: Due to the onset of COVID -19 Corona virus no meeting was held for the Winter – Spring period. The Colony's next meeting date and time will be tentatively in July or August or in the Fall. - Inge Tingle, Lieutenant Governor. 205-903-4875; inge.tingle@gmail.com

FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Governor Alan Davis: The Society did receive some publicity from the December 12, 2019 Edition of *The Evergreen Courant* where Mrs. Barbara Lee, who is a descendant of Richard Warren, lives in the Gosport community in Monroe County. She is currently gathering the necessary documents for her application.

From Former Governor Ellie Lienau: Fuller Society 400 Mayflower UK Tour: The people of Harleston, U.K., have arranged a special historical and cultural program for their Fuller Society friends to celebrate Mayflower 2020 together, July 12-19, 2020, beginning and ending in London. We will visit the many places in East Anglia and London that played major roles in the Pilgrim story and the beginning of America. For details on this complete UK travel package, and as an indication of your interest, contact Governor Debbie or Ellie (info@harlestonsfuture.org.uk). 256-655-9452

Social: “Twitter@ALMayflower”; www.facebook.com/groups/AlabamaMayflowerSociety

Moving? Give Nancy Logan (nlnurse@yahoo.com) street & e-mail addresses, & telephone(s).

Replace a U.S. Mail Address with an E-mail Address. Be sure to save us all money by giving your e-mail address to Treasurer Patricia Harper, SMDAL.TREASURER@gmail.com & Secretary Nancy Logan, nlnurse@yahoo.com.

April Fool's Day

The Gregorian calendar was observed in Italy, Portugal, Spain and Poland. Other Catholic countries followed shortly thereafter, but Protestant countries refused to accept the new calendar and continued to celebrate the New Year on 1 April for another 170 years. Those who refused to change were labeled as “fools”, lending to what is not known as April Fool's Day. - OGS Genealogy News

We are still looking for our missing minute books and other documents from 1952-1986 if *anyone; anyone* knows where they are please let me or one of the officers know.

Members: We need your e-mail address

By Alan M. Davis - Governor, Newsletter Editor

The Alabama Mayflower Society sends this newsletter electronically — as an e-mail attachment — to members who would prefer to receive it in the PDF format, rather than in its traditional “hard-copy,” printed-and-mailed format.

The layout of the electronic version will be identical to the traditional, printed version, except the 8 1/2 by 11-inch pages will be arranged consecutively.

By opting for electronic delivery, members will receive the newsletter earlier, and in full color. If you wish, you may print paper copies on your own printer, of course.

The principal benefit to your Society in delivering your newsletter to you electronically vs. “snail mail” is reduced printing and postage costs, which continue to rise.

Our members who live outside the State of Alabama will especially appreciate receiving their newsletters much sooner by e-mail — the same time as our Alabama residents.



The Alabama Pilgrim

The Twice-a-year Newsletter of the
Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the State of Alabama
Alan M. Davis, - *Editor*
(E-Mail address)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Send address changes to:

Nancy Logan - Secretary
2945 Floyd Bradford Road
Trussville, AL 35173