

# ALABAMA PILGRIM

The Newsletter for the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama,  
a member society of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants

[www.alabamamayflowersociety.com](http://www.alabamamayflowersociety.com)

March 18, 2016

## ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

May 7, 2016 - 11:00 a.m.

Board of Assistants Meeting – 9:30 a.m.

*Heron Lakes Country Club, Mobile, Alabama*

*Guest Speaker – Executive Director of the Fort Morgan,  
Alabama Historical Site Mr. Michael Bailey*

### Governor's Highlights

For a pleasant and informative spring outing to the Gulf Coast Colony, you are most welcome to the 2016 Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama's (SMDAL) Annual Meeting and Luncheon. We are very grateful to Dr. Jack Dwyer for hosting us early in May. We will gather on the morning of **Saturday, May 7, 2016**, at the *Heron Lakes Country Club* in Mobile.

That day, attendees and their guests will enjoy a presentation by Fort Morgan Historical Site Executive Director Michael Bailey on *Fort Bowyer and its Place in the War of 1812*. As Gulf Coast Lieutenant Governor Jack Dwyer explains below, Mr. Bailey is "...one of the most sought after speakers in the Mobile and Baldwin Counties region."

Also, last November in Birmingham we enjoyed an eloquent talk by the leader of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD), Governor General Lea Sinclair Filson. Highlights of her fact-filled, *Compact Day* update on our Society's preparations for the 2020 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Plymouth landing, as well as other significant GSMD developments, are summarized just below for your convenience.

Your May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting and luncheon reservation form, with useful information, is found at the end of this newsletter. We look forward with pleasure to greeting you that day. Early May weather in Mobile should be magnificent!

Faithfully yours, Governor Ellie Lienau



Governor General Lea Sinclair Filson speaking at our November *Compact Day*

## CURRENT OFFICERS

**Governor** - Eleanor J. Lienau, 256.655.9452  
**Deputy Governor** - Alan M. Davis, 334.270.8657  
**Secretary** - Nancy L. Logan, 205.515.2007  
**Treasurer** - Mary Helen Mahan, 334.395.8474  
**Historian** - Charlotte B. Hobson, 334.897.3510  
**Elder** - John A. Smith, 334.272.9496  
**Captain** - Anne T. Kilgrow, 334.669.1826  
**Librarian** - Carol A. Kitchens, 256.748.4056  
**Board of Assistants Members-at-large** -  
Linda L. Maples, 256.534.2315  
J. Michel Marcoux, 202.641.4242  
Pamela J. Pittman, 334.279.7976

## GENERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

**Deputy Gov. General** – Alan Davis, 334.270.8657  
**Assistant General** – Ann Ferguson, 256.234.4460

The Officers serve your Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama. Any time we can assist you, please let us know. We plainly need your help, input, suggestions, and support. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns. Thank you very much.

---

## GSMD Governor General Filson Addresses Compact Day Audience

The 33rd General Society of Mayflower Descendants Governor General, and the fourth woman to hold that office, Lea Sinclair Filson of New Orleans addressed the SMDAL's *Compact Day Meeting and Luncheon at The Club* in Birmingham on November 14, 2015. As the leader of preparations for the 400 year anniversary of our Mayflower ancestors' Atlantic voyage into history, she first exclaimed "There is much going on!"

In describing the Pilgrims' initial flight from King James' England to Holland and their later brave travel to North America to help grow a nation, Governor General Filson invoked the GSMD's two missions: (1) public education to combat today's de-emphasis or even removal of Pilgrim history from U.S. schools by keeping the Pilgrims' story of survival, hope, and faith alive, and (2) lineage

research to provide a gold standard for Mayflower family descent validation. She repeatedly noted the emphasis on those missions in the GSMD 2014-2017 Strategic Plan, updated in September 2015.

Education. Today's GSMD Mission Statement first commits to quality education, *e.g.*, why the Pilgrims were important, how they helped shape western civilization, and what their 1620 voyage means today. Governor General Filson described the continuing need to keep our ancestors in the hearts and minds of the public. As an important way to further that primary educational mission financially, she noted that Assistant Governor General George Garmany of Colorado chairs a GSMD Committee to petition Congress to require the U.S. Mint to produce a coin series commemorating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mayflower voyage. *See* the GSMD website, GSMD Coin Initiative Now Before Congress, [www.themayflowersociety.org](http://www.themayflowersociety.org). She explained this is a very important opportunity not to be missed. Sales of such coins can result in several millions of dollars to benefit non-profit organizations such as the GSMD. All GSMD members, including Alabama members, are urged to write to their Senators (indeed, Senator Shelby chairs the key Senate Committee) and Representative to ask for their support as non-partisan co-sponsors of the pending Mayflower commemorative coinage legislation. Letters should be sent now because of the years-long lead time for the Mint's scheduling. Only two such coins are minted annually.

Governor General Filson also quoted Governor Bradford words that "one small candle [of religious faith] may light a thousand", and admired Plymouth as America's small hometown. She and her husband Ron Filson – also in attendance at our *Compact Day* -- were traveling at their own expense with several other GSMD members to England and Holland to meet with groups there planning additional commemorations of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They also would spend time with Dr. Jeremy Bangs, the leading authority on the Pilgrims' Amsterdam and Leiden years (1608-20) and author of *Strangers and Pilgrims, Travellers and Sojourners* (GSMD, 2009: Page 698: "Simple and humble folk' some Pilgrims were, but what they were doing they dared to compare with the grand occasions of providential

history found in the Bible, and they were unashamed to believe that the example of their covenanted life had the strength to shake the habits of earthly society.”)

Lineage research. The Mission Statement also commits the GSMD to lineage research of the highest order on the Pilgrims’ journey aboard the *Mayflower* in 1620 and their lineal descent. Among others, GSMD Surgeon General Dr. Naomi Mann of Louisiana is examining carefully the value DNA research might provide in lineage evaluation. Governor General Filson described the possibility that the GSMD may partner with a DNA laboratory as a means to provide additional member lineage data, while taking great care to maintain privacy. Participants could have the opportunity to download their DNA strings, copy them onto a flash drive, and store the data for the future. Apparently, GSMD members are especially sought after for DNA strings due to our lineage to 1620.

Governor General Filson reported on these other developments as well:

- As detailed on the GSMD website, 2016 will see changes to the *Mayflower Quarterly*. It will be renamed *MQ Magazine* (March, June, September, December), and will be free and for members only, containing articles on GSMD activities and business. There also will be a new *Mayflower Journal* (May, October) available to the public by subscription, and containing Pilgrim history, genealogy, and literature, as well as articles on the arts in Colonial New England.
- Members are invited to receive a GSMD newsletter by e-mail after subscribing on the GSMD website.
- Discussions are underway for Australia, Germany, and the United Kingdom to join Canada as countries with GSMD affiliations.
- To maintain free-flowing, two way, open communication between national and state officials, Alabama and Mayflower Society officers in other States can participate in quarterly GSMD telephone conference calls, involving 50-80 people, with transcripts to be available later online.

- Mayflower Society House in Plymouth also will be used by vacationing GSMD members, who will be able to rent up to four rooms. A capital campaign for the House also is in the works. See Mayflower Society House on the GSMD website.

- Due to recent hiring of additional expert personnel, the backlog for GSMD action on lineage applications has been reduced from 14 weeks to 10 weeks, with a goal of 8 weeks.

Governor General Filson concluded her speech to our *Compact Day* audience’s enthusiastic applause.



2015 *Compact Day* in Birmingham, the SMDAL Officers left to right: BoA Member-at-large Linda Maples, Secretary Nancy Logan, Librarian Carol Kitchens, GSMD Assistant General & past SMDAL Governor Ann Ferguson, Tennessee Valley Colony Lieutenant Governor Deen Rice, GSMD Deputy Governor General, SMDAL Deputy Governor & Capital Colony Lt. Gov. Alan Davis, Historian Charlotte Hobson, Governor Ellie Lienau, Elder John Smith, BoA Member-at-large Michel Marcoux, and Gulf Coast Lt. Gov. Jack Dwyer. Treasurer Mary Helen Mahan, Captain Anne Kilgrow, and BoA Member-at-large Pam Pittman are not pictured.

## **HISTORIAN'S REPORT**

**Charlotte B. Hobson**  
**Members since November 2015**

### **NEW MEMBERS**

**Barbara Wallace (Scott) Sandner** AL#551 GN 89096 - 13<sup>th</sup> in descent from William Brewster

**John Craig Ferguson** AL#552 GN 89535 - 13<sup>th</sup> in descent from Edward Fuller

**Katherine Billieu (Ferguson) Gaskin** AL#553 GN 89536 - 13<sup>th</sup> in descent from Edward Fuller

**Carrie Day (Ferguson) Wilson** AL#554 GN 89537 - 13<sup>th</sup> in descent from Edward Fuller

## **ELDER'S REPORT**

### **IN MEMORIAM**

**John A. Smith**

March 6, 2015 **Mr. Jeremiah Ellsworth Abbott**  
#482 GN 80797

February 28, 2014 **Mrs. Martha Anderson Morris**  
#285L GN 52753

The information above regrettably may be incomplete in some cases, or some members may have been reported in the Newsletter previously. Unfortunately, complete information is not reaching the Society when a death occurs. In most cases, it is well after the fact that we learn of a death. Current Members would be thoughtful to tell your families to notify the Secretary or Treasurer or one of the other Officers when the time comes.

### A SPECIAL NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

We give a very warm welcome to the four new Alabama Mayflower Society members listed just above. *You are our fellow relatives, and we very much wish to greet you in Mobile on Saturday, May 7!*

## **We Can Help Raise Substantial Money For Mayflower Public Education**

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants' primary mission is to promote public education about the Pilgrims' importance for the early history of our Country. Today, that mission is particularly important, when many U.S. educators are de-emphasizing or entirely removing Mayflower Pilgrim history from our schools.

As an effective way to promote that history, and as detailed on the GSMD website ([www.themayflowersociety.org](http://www.themayflowersociety.org)), Assistant

Governor General George Garmany of Colorado is chairing a GSMD Coin Initiative Committee to petition Congress to direct the U.S. Mint to produce coins recognizing the 2020 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mayflower voyage. Past sales of specially minted coins for other commemorative purposes have raised between \$3 million and \$8 million. Coins depicting the 2007 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Virginia Jamestown settlement raised some \$4 million.

Large majorities of U.S. Representatives and Senators are needed to lend their non-partisan, co-sponsoring support to pending Mayflower coin legislation. H.R.2980 is sponsored by Representative Bill Foster (D-IL). Alabama Mayflower Society members



should write to their Representative, expressing their support for Mayflower coins and asking that their Representative co-sponsor H.R.2980, introduced on July 8, 2015. Your Representative's contact data are found at [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) (enter your zip code).

Alabama Mayflower Society members also should write to Senators Sessions and Shelby. Our letters have extra punch because, as Senator Shelby explains, S.1715 (also introduced on July 8, 2015, by Senator John Hoeven (R-ND)) was referred to Senator Shelby's Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, which he serves as Chairman. Addresses for Senators Sessions and Shelby are: The Honorable Jeff Sessions, United States Senate, 326 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-0104 & The Honorable Richard Shelby, United States Senate, 304 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-0103. Model template letters,

---

*After Kay Anderson's December 5, 2015, talk to a joint meeting of our Tennessee Valley Colony and the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge -- dressed as a Valley Forge "camp follower" -- Kay provided her talk to Linda Maples, who relays it here. Kay's text is edited for stylistic consistency and space limitations:*

**THEY WORE THAT! From  
the Pilgrims to Valley Forge –  
What They Wore and Why.  
by P. Kay Anderson**

The period from the mid-16th century to the end of the 18th century saw the most dynamic clothing evolution in history. The Protestant Reformation had a major influence on fashion. Many other factors also affected the clothing of Western Europe during the mid-

carefully referencing needed co-sponsor support for H.R.2980 and S.1715, are available for your use on the GSMD website.

This GSMD Coin Initiative plainly is an important opportunity to generate substantial funds to help explain the history of Mayflower Pilgrim achievements to new generations. However, with only two coins minted each year, U.S. Mint scheduling requires that particular commemorative coins be directed by Congress several years in advance. Please understand that the time to urge co-sponsorship of the legislation by your Alabama Congressman and Senators is *now*.

Michel Marcoux

---

16th and early 17th centuries -- a period of time that includes the Tudor dynasty from Henry VIII to his daughter Elizabeth I – including the factor of new ways to make clothing that could shape the body.

Until 1500, clothing generally followed the contours and shape of the human body. By the early 17th century, however, ladies could wear clothing making the body conform to an "ideal" size and shape. With the development of canvas fabrics and the availability of whalebone, man-made garments could mold or enhance the body. High, full bust lines, long narrow waist lines, and full wide hips became available for every woman who could afford them.

Men at this time were no different. They wanted broad shoulders and to be seen as strong and wise. As part of that desire to appear stronger, men's clothing changed from hose and doublet to stockings, doublet, and "slops". The hose looked much like 20th

century women's tights, although the legs were separate and tied together at the waist then connected in the front by a "cod piece", a small connecting triangle of fabric. The doublet was a waist length jacket with or without sleeves with a wing-like shoulder trim and a short skirt. The doublet did not change but the hose became a trouser-like garment called "slops". These were baggy, knee length pants gathered at the waist and knees. Just as women could hide their flaws, now men could as well.

After 1600, both men and women wore the doublet buttoned up to the neck with a prominent white collar. Men wore the "slops". while women outfitted themselves with a petticoat with apron over a hip pad. This ensemble was very popular in Holland at the turn of the 17th century, which was the very country and time that certain religious dissenters, *i.e.*, the Pilgrims, chose to seek religious freedom and to escape persecution under the Stuart English King, James I. The town (Leiden) where they eventually settled was known for its cloth trade. The Pilgrims took jobs in that trade and, during the 12 years they lived in Leiden, they learned to appreciate fine fabric. Although they wore the somber colors so often attributed to them for religious observances, it was not unusual for them to wear bright colors for everyday wear. In fact, many Pilgrims at Plymouth were trained tailors and seamstresses. When people died in Plymouth Colony, inventories of their surviving goods listed clothing in many different colors. The style and colors of such clothes were influenced by both their English heritage and their Holland years.

The men's doublet evolved into both the waistcoat or vest and the frockcoat that were popular from the late 17th century to the end of the 18th century. Only the fit and length of the coat changed. This coat eventually became the three-piece suit men have worn since 1660. By the French and Indian War years, 1754-63, the three-piece suit was

trimmed. It served as both civilian and military wear, differing primarily in lapels and buttons. The white collar became the neck stock, the cravat and finally the necktie.



The doublet for women became both a waistcoat and bodice. The bodice evolved into a short gown, bed jacket, long gown, blouse, and then today's dress. But, women in the late 18th century continued to wear the shift, corset, one or more petticoats, apron, and cap. They also enhanced their hips with the same hip roll that the Pilgrims used. By the mid-19th century, both men and women were wearing underwear. The dramatic change in women's clothing took place early in the 20th century as women's clothing at last became less restrictive and more comfortable.

Throughout Europe, an undergarment served as night wear for both men and women -- as well as a shirt for men and a slip (shift) for the ladies. Hats were worn by both sexes and ranged from tall, brimmed, felt hats, stocking caps, or flat hats for men. Women wore a white cloth cap, although some wore a felt hat

similar to the men. Of course, people wore shoes and stockings. Some men wore boots instead of shoes. Shoes rarely had buckles until the 18th century and were usually tied with ribbons or leather thongs. This style carried over into the 18th century and the Revolutionary War years, 1775-83.

The Revolutionary War military uniform was anything but standardized. Uniforms consisted of the blue and red continental coat, and brown, green, and multicolored garments, depending on the soldier's Colony and on militia, wilderness, or even civilian attire. During the Valley Forge winter of 1777-78, and during other winter camps, such as at Morristown, New Jersey, in 1779-80, fashion went out the window. Shortages led to strange sartorial combinations. People wore whatever they could put together to keep warm and dry. Their mismatched clothing included uniform pieces, such as the blue and red continental coats, and civilian coats, breeches, trousers, and hunting frocks and shirts favored by the militia. Many men had to wrap themselves in blankets and rags because nothing else was available. Shoes were replaced by rags tied to the feet and legs. But there was hope when Major General Nathaniel Greene was named Quartermaster. Also, Martha Washington and the other ladies tried to help. Mrs. Washington employed her entire Mount Vernon staff to make clothing. As supplies were received

from the French, and from other Colonies, the suffering slowly was relieved.

Throughout history people have chosen clothing for many different reasons, including comfort, culture, image, protection, and cost. Fashion does not change simply because a ruler or a designer wants change. Instead, fashion changes only if people embrace the change because it fits their lifestyle.

*Kay is always bringing the past to life. Raised in Northern Illinois, her favorite toys were historic paper dolls and her favorite costume projects were "Once upon a time". At ten years old, she played "make believe" on Sunday School pageant stages. By middle school, she enjoyed costuming and acting in period plays. She reads historical fiction: "I'm more interested in what Marie Antoinette wore than what Hollywood stars wear." She met her husband at the University of Southern Mississippi, majoring in Home Economics and minoring in Theater. An M.B.A. followed at Lindenwood University in St. Louis. Along with their two daughters, they chased local history across the country, including Alaska and Hawaii. Kay's passion for theatre and costuming continues. Her hobby and very small business is making historical reproduction clothing. Now a DAR member, she makes Halloween costumes for five grandchildren and is the official seamstress for the SAR Tennessee Valley Chapter.*

-----

## **September 2017 Fun Tour of Pre-Mayflower Voyage Sites**

Earlier this year, GSMD Secretary General Susan Roser and GSMD Historic Sites Chair Barbara Williams circulated the following tour information for next year. Prospective travellers, mark your calendars! For more information now, contact Barbara Williams at [gsmdhistoricsites@gmail.com](mailto:gsmdhistoricsites@gmail.com).

To: GBOA, Society Governors  
From: Barbara Williams, GSMD Historic Sites Chair

Please note that the tour will be held next year, in 2017, not this year. Please pass this information on to your officers and members. Details are as follows.

### ***Tour 2017, leaving the week of 17 Sep.:***

1. Arrival/Dinner/Thames Cruise
2. London: Sightseeing, Palace, Southwark, Mayflower Pub
3. Canterbury, Dorking, Upper Clatford, Southampton
4. Dartmouth/Plymouth
5. Droitwich/Shipton/Wrexham
6. Wales
7. Sue Allan's Day: Babworth, Gainsborough, Sturton-le-Steeple, Scrooby
8. Immingham, Austerfield, Boston, Fishtoft
9. Henlow/Cambridge/Fenstanton
10. Redenhall/ Day for the Fullers
11. Harwick/Ferry/Delfshaven
12. Leiden/Amsterdam

13. Leiden/part tour/part leisure
14. Flights

*[Some people like to arrive a day or two early to see other attractions or relax]*

### **One Week Guidelines: *England***

1. Flights/Arrival/Dinner
2. Sightsee London/Southwark
3. Dorking/Southampton/Plymouth
4. Plymouth/Droitwich/Shipton
5. Austerfield, Scrooby, Babworth, Gainsborough. *N.B.*, this day must go through Sue Allan
6. Boston/Fishtoft/Fenstanton/Henlow
7. Flights Home

### **One Week Guidelines: *The Netherlands***

1. Flights/Arrival/Dinner
2. Amsterdam, Begijnhof, Canal Cruise, Rijksmuseum
3. Delfshaven, All Day, Pilgrim Fathers' Church, Area Attractions
4. Leiden, Tour Day, Churches, Museums, Separatists Sites
5. Leiden at leisure, City Hall, University, Use City Map
6. Flights Home

*There is much to see and do. Even a two week tour does not do it justice. Some of the historic sites are lost. Many do not care about the Pilgrims/Separatists. You are the ones keeping the story alive and well!*

Relayed by Ellie Lienau



---

## The Mayflower Society

### General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD)

Founded at Plymouth, Massachusetts, 1897

Welcome! Any person able to document their descent from one or more of the following Mayflower Pilgrims is eligible and welcome to apply for membership in the Mayflower Society:

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 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. Sometimes, the stories of a Mayflower heritage are true and it is easy to document a 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 line carrier, and birth and death of the spouse. The best vital records are the birth, marriage, and death certificates for each person. Other documentation might be 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 original Pilgrims, through at least five generations, can be found in the GSMD's *Mayflower Families* silver books. Mayflower Society



memberships are handled through individual State societies. To receive a membership application and lineage research guidance, contact the State society through which you want to apply. Contact information for the State societies is available at “Join GSMD” on the Mayflower Society website: [www.themayflowersociety.org](http://www.themayflowersociety.org).

If you would like to make an inquiry about Alabama Mayflower Society membership, please contact Alabama Society Historian Charlotte B. Hobson: Telephone, 334.897.3510; E-Mail, [chobson@troycable.net](mailto:chobson@troycable.net).

You may telephone or e-mail the GSMD national office with membership questions: 508.746.3188; [membership@themayflowersociety.org](mailto:membership@themayflowersociety.org). You also may inquire at the GSMD about a possible Mayflower line using the optional “Preliminary Review Form” (\$25.00 fee) found by a link at [www.themayflowersociety.org](http://www.themayflowersociety.org), *Membership Information*.

-----

We publish these unapproved minutes of the *Compact Day* Meeting for two reasons. The more important is so members who are unable to attend will learn of our activities at our Society’s meetings. We believe you will find something of interest and will decide to attend. 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 meeting time.



**THE SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS**  
**IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Compact Day Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2015**

*The Society of Mayflower Descendants of the State of Alabama* met on Saturday, November 14, 2015, at *The Club* in Birmingham, Alabama, courtesy of Kathryn Porter. The following officers were present: Governor - Eleanor Lienau, Deputy Gov., Dep. Gov. Gen. & Lieutenant Gov. Capital Colony - Alan Davis, Assistant Gen. - Ann Ferguson, Secretary - Nancy Logan, Treasurer - Mary Helen Mahan, Historian - Charlotte Hobson, Librarian - Carol Kitchens, Elder - John Smith, Website - Pam Pittman, Junior Members - Stacy Smith, Lt. Gov. Tennessee Valley Colony - Deen Rice, Board of Assistants - Jack Dwyer, Linda Maples & Michel Marcoux.

Governor Ellie Lienau called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m. John Smith read the Elder’s Prayer and the Objects of the Society. Ellie led The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

Roll call was held and Ellie welcomed all members and guests. Those present then introduced themselves and any guests, and named any Pilgrim ancestor(s).

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the previous meeting were not read. They had been published in the October 9, 2015, *Alabama Pilgrim* Newsletter. With no corrections, the minutes were approved.

**Communications:** Discussion was held about the 2020 celebration, including asking all U.S. Senators and Representatives to co-sponsor minting of coins by the U.S. Treasury in commemoration of the Pilgrims' Plymouth landing. Each SMDAL member is requested to contact their Alabama Senators and Representative to request their support of Congressional bills to this effect. Model letters were provided. Also, Ellie noted the existence of various family societies such as the Peter Brown Society and the Fuller Society. She said that she had information about both societies and would be glad to share it.

### **Reports of Officers and Committees:**

**Governor – Ellie Lienau:** Ellie said that it is a privilege to be elected as Governor.

**Deputy Governor – Alan Davis:** Alan said that the next meeting will be held in the spring of 2016, and that the Gulf Coast Colony will host it. He noted that Ms. Lea Filson, the Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD), is our guest today.

**Deputy Governor General – Alan Davis:** Alan said he plans to attend the General Board of Assistants September 2016 Indianapolis, Indiana, meeting as a SMDAL delegate. Also, the SMDAL is allowed four delegates to the next GSMD Congress in 2017.

**Assistant General – Ann Ferguson:** Ann attended the September 2015 General Board of Assistants meeting, and the very helpful Training and Information Day. GBOA attendees received a first GSMD Annual Report, and learned of the publication of a book by Robert Cushman, titled *Cry of the Stone*. Ann reported that the *Mayflower Quarterly*, renamed *MQ Magazine*, will be available online and mailed to members four times a year. She noted the growth of the 1620 Club to support the GSMD. As of early fall 2015, \$69,000 has been given. The GSMD Treasury is financially strong, with 10.4 million dollars in assets and no debt. Ann reported that GSMD applications take about 12 weeks, with a goal of about 8 weeks in the near future. The GSMD has applied to the U.S. Post Office to issue 2020 commemorative stamps. Also, there are many 2020 items available for sale. Ann also described her trip to Plymouth after the GBOA meeting.

**Secretary – Nancy Logan:** No report.

**Treasurer – May Helen Mahan:** Mary Helen reported on our finances, noting that the SMDAL owes *per capita* dues reimbursement monies to the Colonies and that they will be provided soon.

**Historian – Charlotte Hobson:** Charlotte apologized that she had left some records at home. She said we had 27 new members in 2014 and 20 in 2015, with four 2015 supplementals. Several more applications are now at Plymouth. There was discussion about finding an assistant to help Charlotte, and that process is now in the works. Charlotte said there is a lot of paperwork, and that after papers are sent to Plymouth it takes about 12 weeks for approval.

**Librarian – Carol Kitchens:** Carol said that she is in charge of the SMDAL scrapbook and to please send her anything we wanted included in the scrapbook. [carolkitch@mac.com](mailto:carolkitch@mac.com).

**Elder – John Smith:** John has received several notices of members’ deaths. [miadotdot@knology.net](mailto:miadotdot@knology.net). Ellie asked that she be notified of any she had missed. Alan asked that members’ families be reminded in case of death to notify societies such as the SMDAL.

**Website – Pam Pittman:** Pam stated that the SMDAL website and domain names have been renewed. Privacy issues were discussed. Pam said that she and her husband are looking at updates to the website, and that any suggestions are appreciated. [PamPitt59@aol.com](mailto:PamPitt59@aol.com).

**Junior Members – Stacy Smith:** Stacy said he will focus on our junior members and please to send any thoughts to him. [stacyfppf26@yahoo.com](mailto:stacyfppf26@yahoo.com).

### **Reports of Colonies:**

**Capital Colony – Alan Davis:** Alan said the Capital Colony met on June 25, 2015, at the Arrowhead Country Club with Mr. Allen Porter Mendenhall as speaker. He reported there was a fair turnout and announced the next meeting for February 7, 2016, at Wynlakes Country Club.

**Tennessee Valley Colony – Deen Rice:** Deen said they had their spring meeting in May and their next meeting will be December 5, 2015.

**Gulf Coast Colony – Jack Dwyer:** Jack said their spring meeting was in May of 2015 and their next meeting will be November 21, 2015, with Mr. Sid Leake, as speaker. He noted that the Gulf Coast Colony will be hosting the State Meeting in the spring of 2016.

**Birmingham potential colony – Michel Marcoux:** Michel said members are discussing a possible Birmingham region colony, with a meeting after this meeting for anyone interested.

### **Old Business:**

After review and study, the **Bylaws Committee** presented several proposals in the October 9, 2015, *Alabama Pilgrim* Newsletter, pages 3-5: (i) Friends of the Pilgrims dues will change to \$20.00; (ii) an amendment on the reinstatement of a member for non-payment of dues; (iii) an amendment on the fee for transferring members; (iv) an amendment on the clerical charge for transfers to the SMDAL; (v) amendments to various fees (*e.g.*, preliminary & application, supplemental lineage, annual dues, transfer, reinstatement, Junior Member, Friends of the Pilgrims); and (vi) State Year Books shall be published every three years. For the Standing Rules, it was proposed that the SMDAL reimburse each official Delegate \$300.00 to cover official expenses for attending GSMD Congress and GBOA meetings, and also that the Standing Rules may be amended at SMDAL BoA meetings. There was no discussion. The Committee’s proposals were moved and seconded, and the proposals passed. There was no other old business.

### **New Business:**

There are three BoA openings for Members-at-Large. First, as Tennessee Valley Colony Lt. Gov., Deen Rice is on the BoA., so her BoA Member-at-Large position is open. Also, as a Past Governor, Ann Ferguson is on the BoA, and that Member-at-Large position similarly is open. Finally, Member-at-Large Rob Howell of the Gulf Coast Colony resigned due to health reasons.

Linda Maples and Michel Marcoux have agreed to serve as Members-at-Large, and one position is open. It was suggested that a Gulf Coast Colony member be added to represent that Colony.

Alan Davis said the GSMD is asking for a copy of our State Charter. If you know the location of our Charter or our Seal, please let him or any officer know. [amd7thcedar@charter.net](mailto:amd7thcedar@charter.net). In the event the Charter is lost, he has made a suggested replacement Charter, which he passed around.

Ellie noted that the centerpieces on the *The Club* tables are courtesy of Kathryn Porter. Alan requested that everyone pay for their meal if they have not already done so. He also requested that everyone remember to sign the attendance sheet and please to pay 2016 dues.

Ellie read Bradford's *Thanksgiving Prayer* as the blessing for the food. The meeting was adjourned. A delicious meal and wonderful fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Governor General Lea Filson then spoke on GSMD 2020 plans, while encouraging State Societies to hold their own 2020 activities and to please let the GSMD know of them. She also commented on our GSMD insignia and her previous work with the National Insignia Program. Governor General Filson treated the following topics: (i) GSMD history and the Pilgrim Story (she said: "Our ancestors grew a nation."); (ii) the GSMD education mission and its future plans; (iii) she asked that everyone sign up for the online Newsblast on the GSMD website; (iv) the *Mayflower Journal*; (v) decreasing application approval wait time from 14 to 10 or fewer weeks; (v) DNA as a secondary lineage proof is coming, this may involve privacy issues which are being addressed (she encouraged everyone to have their DNA tested and to store it securely); (vi) changes for the Mayflower House in Plymouth; (vii) she asked everyone to donate their money, time, and talents to the GSMD, and noted that the Annual Appeal starts soon; (viii) she observed that the new 1620 Club now has 46 members and has raised over \$100,000 as of November 2015; (ix) she reported on a United Kingdom/Netherlands trip following the September 2015 GBOA meeting on which she met with people interested in starting local societies in those countries; (x) she described the important GSMD Coin Initiative for 2020 commemorative coins and the substantial money they could raise for the GSMD education mission, asking that we contact our U.S. Senators and Representative, asking them to co-sponsor legislation requiring action by the U.S. Mint; (xi) finally, Governor General Filson spoke of her meeting with Wampanoag Native Americans about upcoming 2020 events, and the resulting GSMD agreement not to call it a "celebration", but instead a "commemoration".

The Compact Day Meeting then was adjourned. It was followed by a short meeting regarding members' interest in a possible Birmingham region colony.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Logan, Secretary

---

### **Gulf Coast Colony Holds Compact Day Meeting**

On November 21, 2015, the Gulf Coast Colony had a Compact Day Meeting at *Felix's Fish Camp Restaurant* on the

Causeway, Spanish Fort. Twenty-four members and guests attended, including Governor Ellie Lienau, Deputy Governor Alan Davis, and Historian Charlotte Hobson.



Dr. Jack Dwyer introduced Governor Lienau who called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Vice Lieutenant Governor Medbery led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Deputy Governor Alan Davis read the Elder's Prayer, the Objects of the Society, and the Mayflower Compact.

Governor Lienau then conducted the nomination and election for a new Colony Lt. Gov. Previously, Lt. Gov. Rob Howell had resigned due to health reasons. Dr. Jack Dwyer was nominated and elected and thanked everyone for their support. Elizabeth McKenzie, current Colony Historian, volunteered also to be the Colony Secretary and was elected to that office. John Medbery resigned as Vice Lt. Governor for health reasons and Susan H. Crowson was elected to that office.

Dr. Dwyer introduced the guests. Next, the Roll Call of members present was taken with each member stating their ancestor's names and generation of descent. Dr. Dwyer read the minutes from the previous Colony meeting (May 9, 2015), prepared by Rob Howell. Those minutes were approved. In the absence of Jane Lies, Colony Treasurer, Dr. Dwyer read the Treasurer's Report. The Colony's present balance was \$ 423.76, and the Treasurer's Report was approved.

Dr. Dwyer presented an *In Memoriam* for Eleanor Scott Brandon, a long time Colony member and former Gulf Coast Colony Lt. Gov. She died on January 11, 2015, in her 98<sup>th</sup> year.

Governor Lienau reported that a special coin will be minted to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup>

anniversary of the Pilgrims' arrival. U.S. Sen. John H. Hoeven (R-SD) sponsored and introduced a bill on July 8, 2015. Copies of suggested letters to send to Senators and House of Representatives Members were passed out. Colony members were asked to sign and mail the letters to Senators Sessions and Shelby, and Representative Bradley Byrne. Congress must pass a law for the commemorative coin to become a reality.

Gov. Lienau then introduced the speaker, Colony member Dr Jack Dwyer, who provided a most interesting talk on Pilgrim John Billington: "Murderer or Martyr."

John Medbery shared a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

The Colony and the Alabama Mayflower Society thank Rob Howell and John Medbery for their fine leadership and stewardship of the Colony. We congratulate them for their dedicated service and contributions. We wish them the best and pray that they both overcome their health problems.



Governor Ellie Lienau, center, and Gulf Coast Colony 2015 Compact Day Members

## **Dr. Jack Dwyer Becomes Gulf Coast Colony Lt. Governor**

Dr. Jack Dwyer was elected Lt. Governor, Gulf Coast Colony, at the November 21, 2015, Colony. He will replace Rob Howell, who resigned as Lt. Governor due to health reasons.

Jack is a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel with 26 years of service, including two tours of duty in Vietnam. Following his military career, he served as a civilian within the U.S. Department of Defense for 18 years. Jack's last assignment was as professor and site manager of the Defense Acquisition University campus at Eglin Air Force Base, Okaloosa County, Florida, where he retired in August 2008. He holds a doctorate in education from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg.

Jack is a member of a number of hereditary and patriotic societies and fraternal groups besides the Mayflower Society, including: Descendants of Colonial Clergy, Sons of the American Revolution, Society of the War of 1812, Sons of Union Veterans in the Civil War, Military Officers Association of America, Masons, Scottish Rite, and Shriners.

He is a lineal descendent of Mayflower Pilgrim John Billington; Edward Rawson, Secretary of the Massachusetts Bay Colony from 1650 to 1686; and the Rev Thomas Hooker, founder of Hartford, Connecticut.

Married to the former Charlotte M. Fife of San Antonio, Texas, Jack and Charlotte have two children, Michael and Melanie, and three grandchildren: Megan, Michael, and Ashleigh.



Governor Ellie Lienau & Gulf Coast Colony  
Lieutenant Governor Jack Dwyer

---

## Capital Colony Recent and Upcoming Meetings

The Capital Colony met on Saturday, March 12, 2016, at Wynlakes Country Club, at 11:00 a.m., with 24 members and guests present. Mr. William Dean spoke. He currently is the Associate Professor of Comparative Military Studies at the Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell U.S. Air Force Base, Alabama, and also serves as the Adjunct Professor, Joint Special Operations University, at Hurlburt Field, Okaloosa County, Florida, near Fort Walton

Beach. Mr. Dean spoke on the "Special Ops" (Operations) during the American Revolution in an interesting synopsis of how American Colonists worn down British Redcoats with irregular warfare to win the war for our independence.

Our **next meeting** will be on Saturday, August 6, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. either at Montgomery Country Club or Wynlakes Country Club. Colonel (Ret.) Jeffrey Benton who will speak to us on how our ancestors traveled along the Federal Road to come to Alabama and westward.

Andrew and Whitney Hobson Craig had a baby boy on Monday, March 14, 2016: William Lewis Craig, 8 lbs., 7 oz. Whitney is the daughter of Rich and Susie Hobson, the granddaughter of Charlotte Hobson, and the sister of Amelia Hobson.

Alan M. Davis, Lieutenant Governor

-----

**May 14, 2016, Tennessee Valley  
Colony Veterans Memorial  
Museum Tour**

We meet at the U.S. Veterans Memorial Museum, 2060A Airport Road in Huntsville, on Saturday, May 14, 2016, at 10 a.m., for a guided tour. The Museum has an amazing collection of military vehicles and memorabilia from the Revolutionary War to the present. Lunch at *Newk's* (corner of Whitesburg Drive & Airport Road) follows the tour. For more Museum information, visit [www.memorialmuseum.org](http://www.memorialmuseum.org).

Deen Rice, Lieutenant Governor

-----

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Some GSMD News: You should have received the new the new *Mayflower Quarterly* (renamed *MQ Magazine*) recently. The format has changed. Part of the reason is that the long-time editor, Alice Teal, became the Editor *Emerita* and others took responsibility for the magazine. Unfortunately, Alice recently died. We send our thoughts and prayers to her family and those in the GSMD who worked closely with her.

Did you know that there is a members-only location on the GSMD website? It is listed on the left side of the GSMD website page. [www.themayflowersociety.org](http://www.themayflowersociety.org). To access this location, you will need to know your GSMD five digit member number. Then, you provide a user name and password. There is much good information to be found there. You can see what is available when you touch the members only bar. You can find a copy of *MQ Magazine* by clicking publications.

Birmingham Region Colony Petition Presented: Three SMDAL Colonies now promote the Society's interests, *i.e.* the Capital, Gulf Coast, and Tennessee Valley Colonies, serving the Montgomery, Mobile, and Huntsville regions, respectively. This past February, SMDAL members supporting a colony for the Birmingham region petitioned the SMDAL Secretary in writing for such a new colony. If the BoA authorizes a Birmingham region colony, the new colony members would not pay additional dues as a result. The Treasurer would make a *per capita* reimbursement to the new colony of 20 percent of the annual dues such members pay to the SMDAL, as is done now under the Constitution/Bylaws for the three existing Colonies.

Notice to those interested in the Pilgrim Peter Browne Society (PPBS): For interested SMDAL members, our Secretary Nancy Logan received this e-mail in February:

Nancy:

*I am the Recording Secretary and the Editor of the PPBS Newsletter. We became a national society organization in September 2014 in Plymouth, Mass. We are striving to grow our membership and to search out descendants of Peter Brown. I am e-mailing all the State Mayflower Societies in hopes that someone at the State level would be able either to spread the word out to State chapters or put a short notice in their Newsletters. Our first Quarterly Newsletter shows our goals. Please visit our website at [www.pilgrimpeterbrownsociety.org](http://www.pilgrimpeterbrownsociety.org).*

*If there is someone else in the Society who would be the person to help us with this, please pass the e-mail on and let me know who that person would be. I believe we are now at about 14 members with some applications being worked on. We really just got started this past year as it took time to get our website running, along with the other necessities in starting a new society. We are both a lineage and non-lineage organization.*

*Thank you for helping us recognize and support Pilgrim Peter Brown.*

*Sincere regards,  
Sandra Sauers, Recording Secretary (PPBS)  
[s.sauers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.sauers@sbcglobal.net).*

From Librarian Carol Kitchens: If you have photographs, newspaper articles, or anything else of interest concerning Alabama Mayflower Society members, please send such items to me to include in our Mayflower Scrapbook, including the event, date, location, and names of people: [carolkitch@mac.com](mailto:carolkitch@mac.com) or my home mailing address, Post Office Box 239, Ranburne, Alabama 36273-0230.

From Deputy Governor Alan Davis: If anyone knows the whereabouts of the Charter and Seal, please let Alan know. [amd7thcedar@charter.net](mailto:amd7thcedar@charter.net).

Moving? Please let both Secretary Nancy Logan, [nclnurse@yahoo.com](mailto:nclnurse@yahoo.com), and Treasurer Mary Helen Mahan, [mhm.smdal@charter.net](mailto:mhm.smdal@charter.net), know any new addresses, e-mail addresses (all), or telephone numbers to help ensure continuous SMDAL communications with you.

Your e-mail address should replace a U.S. Mail address for this newsletter! If you have e-mail, but nevertheless receive this newsletter by much more costly U.S. Mail, you can save your Alabama Mayflower Society a significant amount of money. Let Secretary Nancy Logan, [nclnurse@yahoo.com](mailto:nclnurse@yahoo.com), and Treasurer Mary Helen Mahan, [mhm.smdal@charter.net](mailto:mhm.smdal@charter.net), have your e-mail address please.





## **Society of Mayflower Descendants in Alabama Annual Meeting and Luncheon**

May 7, 2016 -- 11:00 a.m.

Board of Assistants Meeting -- 9:30 a.m.

*Heron Lakes Country Club, Mobile, Alabama*

3851 Government Blvd West (Hwy 90 West, Exit 1 off I-65)

### **Guest Speaker—Michael Bailey**

Executive Director, Fort Morgan Historical Site  
“Fort Bowyer and its Place in the War of 1812”

Michael Bailey earned his degree in history from Auburn University. He has worked in public history for 36 years. Since Mike was a young boy, he has had an interest in history. “As a kid, I lived in Maryland and Virginia,” he says. “On weekends, my folks would take my brother and me to Civil War battlefields. From a young age, I knew I was interested and wanted to do this.”

Mike Bailey started working at Fort Morgan in December 1988. He was the curator for the site through May 2005, when he decided to retire and work for the office of Army Reserve history. He worked there for almost a year and was offered a job back at Fort Morgan. “They created a new position and offered me the job,” he says. “I came back in 2006. I’ve been here for 28 years minus the 16 months I was retired.”



Under Mike’s leadership, new interpretative historical signs have been installed and educational programs at the site have doubled. Tourist visits to the Fort Morgan Historical Site have doubled over the past five years. Mike is a co-author of *Fort*



*Morgan* (Arcadia Publishing, 2000) and has appeared on the History Channel's, "Deep Sea Detectives," a recently completed documentary about the Battle of Mobile Bay, as well as other historical presentations on the Battle of Mobile Bay, Fort Bowyer, and Fort Morgan.

Mike Bailey is a dynamic historian and speaker. He is one of the most sought after speakers in the Mobile and Baldwin Counties region. He will talk about Fort Bowyer and its place in the War of 1812, that is, on the two battles there and why the United States built a new masonry fortification, Fort Morgan, on the site of Fort Bowyer.

---

### **Luncheon—Heron Nest Room**

Salad Choice: Garden Salad with Trimmings  
Entree Choices: Blackened White Fish with Shrimp Creole Sauce; or  
Roasted Turkey with Cornbread Dressing  
Vegetables: Sautéed Green Beans, Glazed Carrots, Macaroni & Cheese  
Dessert: Apple Cobbler  
Rolls & Butter; Coffee, Tea, & Water

\$26.00 cost includes buffet, gratuity, & tax

---

**R.S.V.P. BY RETURNING THIS FORM, OR BY E-MAIL, OR BY TELEPHONING JACK DWYER**

I/we will attend the SMDAL's Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Saturday, May 7, 2016, at 11:00 a.m., at Heron Lakes Country Club, Mobile, Alabama (3851 Government Boulevard West; 251.666.7040; cost, *only* \$26.00 per person).

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I/we plan to attend  
\_\_\_\_\_ # Guests I am bringing (please include their names)  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_ Check made out to "SMDAL" enclosed  
\_\_\_\_\_ Pay at the door (you will be billed if you do not cancel by Friday, April 29)

Return this form, R.S.V.P. by E-Mail, or telephone, no later than **Friday, April 29, 2016**, to:

**Dr. Jack Dwyer**  
**12655 Dominion Drive**  
**Fairhope, Alabama 36532**  
**E-Mail: [cmdwyer843@earthlink.net](mailto:cmdwyer843@earthlink.net) Telephone: 251-929-0517**

Directions: Take Government West exit (Highway 90 West), Exit 1 from I-65. Go west on Government Boulevard for about a half mile, through two traffic lights. Heron Lakes Country Club is on the left. Cross the road median to enter: 3851 Government Blvd West. Welcome!

Motels: There are a number of motels along I-65. On the internet, simply type "motels near the Heron Lakes Country Club." Most of the listed motels are within two or three miles of the Club.

Jack Dwyer

-----  
**WE WILL GREET YOU IN MOBILE ON SATURDAY, MAY 7!!!**  
-----