



The Missouri Compact

MISSOURI SOCIETY AWARDS 2016 SCHOLARSHIPS

COLUMBIA, MO - 22 APRIL 2016 - MISSOURI SOCIETY SPRING LUNCHEON



Mimi White; Keith Morris, Sylvia Grote and Rachel Veenstra

In a competition for handsome scholarship awards, dozens of high school seniors applied inundating the Scholarship Committee with tough decisions on top essays. The theme this year was, *"Chief Massasoit's Role in the Mayflower Pilgrims' Story"*. The winners chosen were: (left) **Rachel Veenstra** of Hartville; **Jeremy Sutphen** (photograph held by Governor Keith Morris) of St. Louis; and, **Shannon Anderson**

(right) of Chesterfield. (Complete information and essays are published in this issue beginning on page 5). Society members enjoyed meeting Rachel and Shannon and their parents at the luncheon, however, Jeremy was unable to attend and was represented via photograph.



Mimi White, Shannon Anderson, Sylvia Grote, and Keith Morris

EXTRA! **EXTRA!**

BECOME A SUPPORTER OF THE MISSOURI SOCIETY'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By sending a tax-deductible contribution to the Fund, you can receive a signed copy of Artist (and member) **Cedric Hustace's** painting, "Cape Cod" suitable for framing. Simply donate \$100 or more and receive an 8" X 10" copy. Or, donate \$250 (or more) to receive an 11" X 14" copy. Send your contributions payable to: Missouri Mayflower Society noting it is for the Scholarship Fund and mail to: **Mrs. Joan Gooding, 10638 Alswell Court, St. Louis, MO 63128-2601**. Your copy will be mailed in 6 to 8 weeks.



"Cape Cod"



MO MAYFLOWER ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON— COLUMBIA, MO

April 23, 2016

(Photo above) The opening of the meeting, members and guests stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. (Left) **Marietta Boenker** stands with speaker, **Dr. Maryellen McVicker** whose PowerPoint program “Tombstones - Examples of High Style” was quite popular. Scholarship awards were presented before the conclusion of the luncheon. (See front page)

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

It is time to take names for positions for the 2016-2018 Board. In addition to officers positions, you can become a Board Assistant to get your feet wet. If you are interested, contact Gov. **Keith Morris** at 314-353-4109 or mayflowermo1620@aol.com

DO YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST ?

Our Society Elder, **Fred Evermon**, is volunteering to take calls from members in need of prayers. Contact Fred at 573-874-1577 or fevermon@socket.net

STEPHEN HOPKINS DESCENDANTS

The Jamestowne Society has established the new Lewis & Clark Company for St. Louis, the eastern section of Missouri, and the nearby section of Illinois. Many Mayflower Society members may be eligible for Jamestowne Society membership. Descendants of Mayflower passenger Stephen Hopkins, who came first to Jamestowne and next to Plymouth, are eligible for membership. Kansas City and Columbia also have Jamestowne Companies. For more information please contact John Graves, Governor, at jgraves48@gmail.com or 1-800-727-5405, ext.487.

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Date	MO#	Name	City	Ancestor
Mar 7	1030	Richard James Sherwood	Columbia	William Brewster
Mar 28	1031	Suzanne Christian Worley	Glencoe	Francis Cooke
Apr 21	1032	Millicent L. Henry	Columbia	Edward Fuller
May 10	1033	Alan Paul (A.P.) Atha	Kansas City	William Brewster
May 17	1034	Hadley Brook Anderson	St. Louis	William Brewster
Jun 6	1035	Colleen Kay Konieczka	Kansas City	John Alden
Jun 6	1036	Kimi Lyn Rensing	Cedar Hill	John Howland

NEW SUPPLEMENTALS

Jan 2	1013	Bernice Carol Lindberg	Old Monroe	Joan (Hurst)(Rogers) Tilley
Apr 18	1013	Bernice Carol Lindberg	Old Monroe	John Tilley
May 31	995	Jennifer Weissler	St. Ann	Peter Brown

IN MEMORIUM

Mrs. Alma Sue Reese (Alley) #690 of Warrensburg passed away December 2015

COLONY NEWS

GREATER OZARK COLONY (Springfield area)

At the Spring Luncheon of the Greater Ozark Colony, for their program, members presented wonderful examples of documentation from their ancestors. The colony decided to hold their second **Ice Cream Social** which will be held on August 13 between 2-4 pm at the Storytime Room of the Greene County Library (4653 S. Campbell Ave) in Springfield.



Member John Charles sharing documents.

The Fall Luncheon will be held on October 15 at 11:30 a.m. at the Heritage Cafeteria on Battlefield Road in Springfield.

Newly elected Colony Governor, Sandra Walker

Greater Ozark Colony Officers 2016-2018

Governor, **Sandra Walker**; Deputy Governor, **Stanley Coryell**; Secretary, **Catherine Pickett**; Treasurer, **Kathryn Anderson**, Colony Historian, **Margaret Maulin**.

HEART OF AMERICA COLONY (Kansas City area)



“Moments Unleashed” was the theme of the May 8th program presented by newsletter editor **Marietta Boenker** at the Heart of America Colony Spring Luncheon. The PowerPoint production beautifully produced by **George Hardy** consisted of the entire photo collection from Mrs. Boenker’s files spanning 2010-2015. Members and guests provided humorous commentary in seeing their likenesses from years gone by.

Following this presentation, new officers were ceremoniously installed using “unity” candles. Pictured left to right: **Jerry Ford**, Treasurer; **Susan Nitzsche**, Governor; **Gwen Hill**, Secretary; **Terri Hardy**, Deputy Governor; and **Fred Evermon**, Elder.

MISSOURI MAYFLOWER SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY WINNERS

Subject: Chief Massasoit's Role in the Mayflower Pilgrims' Story

3rd PLACE—SHANNON ANDERSON

(The winner of a \$500 scholarship, Shannon is a 2016 graduate from Parkway West High School, Chesterfield, and will attend Emory University in Georgia where she plans to study Biology (Biomed Engineering or Environmental Science.)



It is common knowledge that cooperation between the Pilgrims and the natives they encountered contributed greatly to their success in establishing a new colony in the New World. Though Squanto, for his ability to speak English and assistance in cultivating crops in unfamiliar soil, is generally acknowledged as the most valuable asset to the settlers, Sachem (chief) Massasoit played an incomparable role in maintaining peace between the Pilgrims and natives. Massasoit Ousemequin was a key player in early relations between the Pilgrims and the native people belonging to the Wampanoag Nation, particularly the Pokanoket tribe which inhabited the area the Pilgrims came to know as Plymouth Rock.

Massasoit, Chief of the Wampanoag, was a loyal friend and ally to the English settlers that arrived at Plymouth Rock on the Mayflower. First coming into contact with the Pilgrims in spring of 1621, Massasoit made clear the tribe's peaceful intentions by way of Squanto, who fared as a messenger on that important day. The Pilgrims, who had been setting off loud cannons and guns to celebrate their successful harvest, caught the attention of Massasoit and his brother, who came and stood atop a hill overlooking Plymouth "attended with a guard of fiftie {sic} armed men," until everything was straightened out and negotiations began. (Johnson)

At the time the pilgrims first arrived in 1620, the Wampanoag had recently suffered a loss of nearly two-thirds of their population, estimated at 45,000 people, after the arrival of new diseases that accompanied new European settlers. Massasoit, recognizing the vulnerability of his people, was excited by the prospect of gaining new allies, so he began negotiations for a peace treaty with the first governor of the Plymouth colony, John Carver. (Johnson) The treaty entailed peace between Massasoit's men and the Pilgrims, promise of aid and support in wartime, and conditions for peaceful trade. (Cline) The existence of the treaty itself served as a form of protection for the Wampanoag, who sought protection from the threats of the neighboring Narragansett tribe, who were planning to take advantage of the Wampanoag Nations in its weakened state. Much to Massasoit's delight, the Narrangansett's fear of English weaponry, which the Pilgrims possessed, dissuaded them from attacking the Wampanoag, easing some of the inter-tribal danger for the time being. ("Profile")

Later, when Pilgrims Edward Winslow and Stephen Hopkins trekked for days to reach the Pokanoket tribe, Massasoit led cordial discussions reaffirming peace, reminding the Native Americans not to visit the Pilgrims on their own accord simply for food and entertainment, and recognizing the Pilgrims' desire to repay the respective families for the corn they took upon first arriving at Plymouth Rock (Johnson). Such professional yet genial behavior was extremely valuable for the Pilgrims, who were thinking long-term about their uncertain future in the New World and needed to establish solid, trusting relationships with the native people. Massasoit himself played an important role in ensuring the Pilgrims could rely on natives to support them in times of crisis, and vise-versa. This give-and-take relationship is exactly what the settlers needed in their struggle to establish a new colony.

In 1623, Massasoit fell dangerously ill and went blind. Winslow paid him a visit, reportedly providing him with medicine, water, and chicken broth until he fully recovered (Johnson). Massasoit, grateful for Winslow's altruistic actions, revealed to the Pilgrims a plot against them by the Massachusetts tribe, which was then stopped in its tracks by the Pilgrims, directed by Myles Standish, accompanied by some of Massasoit's own men (Johnson). This coopera-

tion and teamwork exemplifies the incredible feats the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag could accomplish through their peaceful agreement, spearheaded by Massasoit, a man who was vital to maintaining their harmonious relationship. Illustrating the sense of community and treaty created for both groups, this instance in particular could not have been possible had it not been for Massasoit's dedication to the people he vowed to look out for.

Massasoit's loyalty to the relationship between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag helped the Pilgrims to see the success they did in the New World. Massasoit held steadfast to the influential treaty he helped create and signed in 1621, maintaining his status as a well-respected chief and peacemaker. Massasoit came to the Pilgrims in a time of great need; for trade allies, for security, for friends. Without the open arms of Massasoit and the rest of the powerful Wampanoag tribe, the Pilgrims' first few chapters in America would most assuredly have turned out very differently.

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2ND PLACE - JERAMY SUTPHEN

(Winner of the \$1,000 scholarship, Jeremy, a descendant of Stephen Hopkins, graduated from North County Christian School (St. Louis) and will be attending Maryville University. His area of study will be in Graphic Design.



Often, when one thinks of the first Thanksgiving, there is a scene imagined of a tribe of Indians feasting with the colonists. The description might not be too far off from reality. The Wampanoag tribe in that region aided the colonists of Plymouth. At that time, Massasoit ruled alongside his brother as sachem, or chief. Chief Massasoit, often called Ousemequin, Wassamagoin, or Yellow Feather, played a pivotal role in the success of the Plymouth colony. Many are unaware of how devastating times could have been for the colonists without the aid of the Wampanoag and Massasoit. The settlers owed their survival to Massasoit. Not only did he give food and drink to the starving new colonists, but he also aided in the teaching of agriculture, negotiated a peace treaty, and gave warning to the colonists of a dire attack from a neighboring tribe.

At first, Massasoit was skeptical of his new neighbors. As winter was approaching, the sachem would already have had his plate full with preparing the Wampanoag Confederacy for the harsh and bitter cold that the region faced. Times were already hard for Massasoit. By the time the Plymouth colonists had arrived, nearly two thirds, or 45,000, of the Wampanoag Nation had fallen to diseases brought by other Europeans who explored the area (Gilia-Witaker). He soon realized that the English would make powerful allies against the enemies of the Wampanoag. The only trouble was the upcoming winter and the lack of agriculture to feed the Pilgrims. This would severely hinder the Plymouth colonist's ability to survive, much less aid the Wampanoag. As Ojibwa states, "In 1621, Massasoit had two of his people - Hobomok and Squanto - teach the Pilgrims agricultural techniques". The supply of food by and the teachings of the Wampanoag enabled the colony to survive, creating a threshold for English colonization in the coming decades.

They soon began peace negotiations, Massasoit and the leaders of Plymouth. In signing such a treaty, the Wampanoag would gain not only allies against their enemies, but also access to European trade goods, most importantly, firearms. Pressure was mounting for the Wampanoag as many of the surrounding tribes sold to or allied

with European nations, many of which were either English Puritans or Dutch. The relationship blossomed after several Peace talks; Massasoit and the Plymouth colony became strong allies. Massasoit also negotiated a treaty between the English and the Pocasset (Ojibwa). As many tribes warred to the South and West of the Wampanoag, their alliance with the Plymouth colony reaped benefits almost instantly. Wars with the Narragansett were ended with the support of the colony alongside the Wampanoag. Both parties gained from the alliance.

This alliance was shaken when Massasoit fell sickly ill in the winter of 1623. Without Massasoit's strong leadership, the Wampanoag were able to offer little aid to the colonists that winter. When word reached Plymouth, Edward Winslow decided to make his way to Pokanoket, where Massasoit lived, to offer aid. He reached Massasoit, despite being told that Massasoit had already died. Winslow nursed the now blind Massasoit back to health, even scraping his swollen mouth, which had prevented him from either eating or drinking (*Mayflower History*). Upon recovering, "Massasoit then revealed to the Pilgrims a conspiracy plot by the Massachusetts Indians to attack them and the Wessagusett Colony, and the Pilgrims led by Myles Standish, with the help of some of Massasoit's men, defeated the plot before it could materialize" (*Mayflower History*). While the alliance was mutual at its creation, it ultimately proved detrimental to the Wampanoag, and to the benefit of the Plymouth Colony.

Though his people did not entirely benefit from the alliance with the Pilgrims, Massasoit played a pivotal role in the success of the Plymouth Colony. Certainly, without the help of the Wampanoag, Plymouth would never have survived as a colony or created a success story for English colonization. Massasoit helped teach the colonists agriculture, signed a peace treaty, and he even saved them from a decisive attack. Many today would not be alive had the Wampanoag and Massasoit not acted how they did. The implications of the successful colonization of New England reach as far as the United States today, paving the way for a new wave of immigration to the New World.

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1st PLACE - RACHEL VEENSTRA

(Winner of a \$1500 scholarship, Rachel graduated from Ava Victory Academy of Hartville. She will be attending Missouri State University in Springfield pursuing degrees in Agronomy and Environmental Plant Science.)

At the time of the Pilgrim's arrival, the Wampanoag nation inhabited what is known today as southeastern Massachusetts. The "Wampanoag" meant "People of the East," and this Indian tribe was so named because they were the first to see the sun rising over the Atlantic each morning. Neighboring tribes knew them as the "Pokanoket," which translates to "place of the cleared land." An estimated 22,500 Wampanoag were living in New England in the early 1600's, and they had built a thriving and well-established society. With a vast knowledge in New England farming techniques and expertise in fishing, hunting, and foraging, the Wampanoag were a successful Indian tribe at the time of the Pilgrim's arrival. The tribe had formed a system of both religion and government. The government of the Wampanoag federation, like many Native American governments, was lead by a chief who was known as the Great Sachem. Called "Massasoit" by the Pilgrims, Ousamequin (also written Wassamagoin, Woosamequin, Aumequin, Oosamequen, etc.) became the Great Sachem of the Wampanoag Nation in the early seventeenth century.



Very little is known or recorded about Massasoit's ancestry or history prior to his encounters with the English. It has been speculated that he was born in early 1580's in the Pokanoket village of Montaup. Massasoit had three sons and two daughters that we are aware of, although some have opined that he possibly had an earlier family that died as a result of plagues induced by English presence. The first suspected meeting between Massasoit and the English was in May of 1619, when both he and his brother briefly met Captain Thomas Dermer. However the first encounter between the Mayflower Pilgrims and Massasoit took place in March of 1621.

Just prior to Massasoit's meeting with the Pilgrims, it is believed that tragedy struck the Wampanoag nation. Prior to the Pilgrims' arrival, "The Great Dying" overtook many of the Algonquin tribes along the Atlantic Coast from 1616 to 1619. The plague had a devastating effect on the Wampanoag population, with an estimated two-thirds of the people perishing. This decrease in numbers meant an increase in vulnerability, specifically with the Narragansetts to the south. Massasoit knew something had to be done to restore security to the Wampanoag nation - this was the uncertain mindset of the Great Sachem when the Pilgrims arrived.

Although the Wampanoags had suffered drastic losses, they still outnumbered the Pilgrims and would have been easily able to obliterate the newly established colony. Massasoit refrained from doing so, which some have speculated to be a strategic political move. After the Pilgrims had been proven friendly by their encounters with Indians such as Samoset and Squanto, the Great Sachem Massasoit came to Plymouth for himself, at which time a peace agreement was signed. The treaty laid out several terms, some of which were as follows: neither party nor any of its members was to harm the other party, and if the former provision was encroached, the guilty party would be sent for punishment; the leaders of both parties would enforce a rule against robbery and return stolen property; both parties would come to the aid of the other in case of war; and when the parties met officially, no weapons (bows and guns) would be present. These conditions were beneficial to both parties, providing for trade, protection, and security for the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags, specifically Massasoit, and the Pilgrims. In fact, it is recorded that in March of 1623, an English settler named Edward Winslow made an emergency journey to help the dangerously ill Massasoit. After he was cured, Massasoit is said to have made the following statement: "Now I see the English are my friends and love me. And whilst I live I will never forget the kindness they have shown me." The Great Sachem sold tracts of land to the Pilgrims in 1653 and 1657, and the Pilgrims came to his aid in several situations. It was a mutually beneficial relationship.

The importance of Massasoit's role in the Pilgrims' story is invaluable. The Sachem's decisions regarding the Pilgrims provided peace, food security, and protection in the crucial early years of the colony's development. Massasoit played a massively important role in the story of the Pilgrims, one that many people likely are not aware of. Without Massasoit, the fledgling colony of Plymouth, and thus the Pilgrims, may not have survived.

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“THE ONLY KNOWN BOOK WRITTEN BY A PILGRIM IN 1619,
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General Society of Mayflower Descendants new
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SHEWING
VVHAT IS THE RIGHT
Matter, Forme, and Government of the
visible CHURCH of CHRIST.

is now available for purchase.

First published in London in 1642, and long out of print, Cushman’s work has been rescued by the efforts of editor Michael Paulick, who notes that this work is “the only known book written by a Pilgrim in 1619, close to the time of the *Mayflower* sailing.”

For the first time Pilgrim enthusiasts may read Cushman’s published original text together with a modern transcription, supplemented by annotations provided by noted Pilgrim scholar James W. Baker. *The Cry of a Stone* is a must read for all those interested in *Mayflower* Pilgrim history.

The cry of A Stone



*A Treatise Showing What is Right Matter, Form and
Government of the visible church of Christ*

Robert Cushman

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