

The Missouri Compact

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

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January A. D. 2018



Governor Keith Morris

From the Governor's Quill

What a wonderful and busy year for the Missouri Mayflower Society!

Over the past year, we have welcomed many new faces into our Mayflower family, celebrated our scholarship winners, continued our educational outreach, celebrated our veterans at the Meramec Bluffs Veteran's Fair, read the Mayflower Compact and just recently honored our veteran's during our annual participation in the Wreaths Across America event.

In order to accomplish this hectic schedule, the Missouri Society has been blessed with many volunteers, selflessly donating countless hours to make the Society prosper and thrive. I can never say thank you enough to each of our members who have given their time and their talents contributing to the overall success of the Society.

Although we had great success during the year, next year will be just as important and even more challenging. As we go forward into 2018, the board and I will continue to work to shore up our finances through fundraising, increase our membership, stress inclusiveness within the State and most importantly continue to honor our veterans and have an educational presence within our schools.

Also in 2018, we will be nominating a new slate of officers and assistants to continue the journey and improve on the success that was begun during this term. As many of you know, I have been a champion of trying to get new volunteers with fresh ideas and thoughts. I have heard from many of you who have volunteered for leadership positions within the Board. As we still have many positions available, please consider volunteering to help ensure the health of the Missouri Society for many years to come. If you would like to hear more about the positions available, please feel free to reach out to me at mayflowermor620@aol.com or 314-630-1427.

Finally, as we approach Christmas and the New Year, it is the time of year that we come together to reflect upon and to remember the blessings of health and family. As you enjoy your time with those that you love, please also pause and remember the freedoms that we enjoy and those that have sacrificed so much for our country.

Thank you for all that you do for our wonderful Society and have a blessed 2018!

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The 2017 Mayflower Compact Luncheon

November 18, Andre's, St. Louis

Old friendships were renewed and new acquaintances were made at this year's Mayflower Compact Luncheon arranged by Treasurer Joan Gooding. Soon Governor Keith Morris called the pre-luncheon meeting to order, which was followed by an invocation by Elder Fred Evermon and the Pledge of Allegiance by Keith Morris (now wearing his Captain's hat).

The feast commenced but not without the reminder of our five kernels of Indian corn at each place setting to remember the suffering and perseverance of our ancestors. Amid good conversation and the repast having been devoured, the meeting continued. Secretary Earlene Lawrence and Treasurer Gooding provided their reports, which were approved without emendation. Governor Morris stated that we are running a deficit but felt that in order for our scholarship program to remain attractive and viable, that the overall awards not be reduced. He reminded

members and prospective members that donations are always accepted. Also, the *Mayflower* ship artwork of Cedric Hustace is still available for purchase, proceeds going to the scholarship fund. The Missouri Society continues its involvement with Wreaths across America, many of our members having contributed money to purchase wreaths that were laid on graves at the Jefferson Barracks Cemetery in St. Louis on December 16. *He also asked that people interested in an Officer or Assistant position step forward as there is "board fatigue!"*

Treasurer Gooding

Governor Morris then read the Mayflower Compact, followed by the names of the signers and other settlers of New Plymouth, asking people to stand when their ancestor's name was called. After this post-banquet exercise, the governor introduced Brandy Dauby, who gave a short travelogue. She told about journeying to Scrooby and visiting the areas where the Separatists met. Although William Brewster's residence still exists, it is privately owned but still able to be photographed from the road. Brandy showed us additional photographs from her trip, including a road sign of Mayflower Lane — a light shining down on it to make a cross, which she took as a portent of good things. She finished her talk by a dramatic reading of a 1632 letter by colonist Lydia Bates Fletcher (see pages 4-5), which described the Thanksgiving feast of 1621.



Secretary Lawrence



Mrs. Dauby



Vandy Evermon, Sylvia and Sumner Hunnewell, Carole and Frank Masotto, and Jan Beardsley

[Guest editor's note: It is a miracle that this letter survived as the *Lyon* was wrecked off the coast of Virginia on the return journey as explained in a letter from William Pierce "...*yf bruit [report] of this fatall staroke that yf lord hath brought both on ~~yon~~ me, and you all, will come to your ears, before this cometh to you hands...Dear freinds, you may know yf all your beauer, and yf books of your accounts, are swallowed vp in yf sea, your letters remaine with me, and shall be deliuered yf god bring me home...*" (transcribed from Bradford's history of 1632).]

Next, Assistant Mimi White with the able assistance of Sylvia Grote described their success visiting classrooms while portraying Pilgrims. Mimi as Christian Penn and Sylvia as Mary Brewster visited schools in the Rockwood school district near St. Louis, ready and prepared to field questions from students. They demonstrated by letting Governor Morris ask questions about who they were and about their lives while in the New Plymouth Colony.

All good things must come to an end. Elder Evermon gave the benediction to the departing company. Governor Morris then adjourned the meeting. While the last farewells were made, some of the attendees were able to take home beautiful mum centerpieces as remembrances of this year's luncheon.



Assistant White and Mrs. Grote

A 1632 Letter from America to Scrooby

To Miss Ruth Fletcher, Scrooby, England

Most Dearly Beloved Sister: Governor Winthrop has informed us that the 'Lyon' will soon set sail for England, so I will give this letter to Richard Gardner, who will bring it to you when he comes to Scrooby - that you may know how we are faring in the New Land. While we have endured many hardships no one repents that he has come hither or desires to go back, for we count it happiness enough that we are free to enjoy God and Jesus Christ. We will shortly have a Church in a settlement near here which is call Boston and there will soon be many others for all do exalt in the escape from oppression and are happy to continue here. You cannot think how full of courage these Pilgrims be. With the help of the neighbours Robert has built a fine house with one room at which I do think you would smile - for it is made of logs with mud mortar between, to keep the cold without. The glass was so deare that the window is of oiled paper - which dooth very well for light - and we will be very comfortable. I cannot think how Beef or Veal or mutton would taste, but we find the Deare meat verry good and sometimes we have wild Turkey and with fishe and els we have plenty of meat.

Robert uses the skins of the Deare for jackets and breeches and they doe verry well. At first I could not eat the bread made from the maise - but now I find it verry good. The only mill for grinding it is at Watertowne - where Robert has to carry it. The maise is quite white and floury when parched in the coals. It makes a verry wholesome porridge. The savage Squanto - whom you saw in England was the first to show our men how to tend and dress it - and it makes a verry good food. Then we have berries of divers kinds and beanes and have planted some pumpkins. There is a sugar tree here which yields a juice when the tree is wounded and this juice boiled downe makes a verry good sweet. Since our candles gave out we have burned the knots of the pine tree. By reason of the Pitche and Turpentine they give a light as cleare as a Torch. A most strange thing did happen to me in the Spring which did give me a greate fright. You must know that our house is at the edge of the Forest. Well, one day I hearde a noise on the roofe and looking in the Chimney I saw two big eyes and a fur nose. Filled with feare I seized Joshua from the cradle and sprang into the big Cheste and none too soone - for there came down the Chimney - for the fire was almost out - a big beaste like unto a lion. He walked about sniffing here and there and finally after a verry long time it seemed to me - he climbed back up the chimney. I declare to you he was a most unwelcome visitor.

Next Thursday - Mr Winthrop has appointed for a day of Thanksgiving on account of the good news that the privy council of the King has passed favorable measures towards the Colonies. We intend to go to service at the Boston settlement. There was a Thanksgiving day the first yeare we came - in February, when after Mr Winthrop had given his last hand full of meale to a poore man - and no one had anything worth the speaking of and it seemed as if we must all die of the cold and no food - a ship came into the harbour at Charlestown - laden with provisions - and was not that good cause for Thanksgiving - I believe it will grow into a custom of keeping days of thankfulness to God for away out here we feel how much we have to depend upon His good Providence -

and we do praise Him that he brought us safely through so many hard ways. Do you know how Governor Bradford, the first year after coming to Plymouth, appointed a day of Thanksgiving in November - and had a fine dinner of game and Deare meat and fruit and many other delicacies and had for guests the Indian Chief Massasoit and his warriors, because he had been guided by God across the greate Ocean and had been supplied. Oh, but I think that was a time of reale rejoicing for those Pilgrims who with so many good things and had been befriended by the savages. I heard also that they set apart another day some time afterwards to give thanks when after a long draught - which had made all nature to languish and they were in sore straits - a plenteous rain brought forth a fruitful harvest to their no small comfort and rejoicing. Robert made the journey to Plymouth which is more then 12 leagues from here - hoping to find where the body of our deare brother Moses is laid. But as you know the place was made into a field - so that the savages might not know how many had died - and he could not find the spot - but it mattereth not where the body lieth when the soul is with God. He sleeps by the side of James Chilton and his wife, and Mary Brewster and many others you used to know. Mary Chilton has grown into a fine woman - is happily wedded and has 3 children. Elder Brewster is in good health - but his haire is white like snow. Love and Wrestling Brewster are both married - and are fine men.

Some say that many in this Plantation do discover to much pride - but I think a woman should always look faire to her lord - so I pray that you will - if the chance cometh - send my taffeta skirt and Robert's ruffles and cape; that we could not bring. You see I have writ a long letter for there is much to tell about this New Strange Land. I pray God we may be preserved and in the enjoyment of this sweet libertie we will not forget Him. Robert bids me to present his love - and William who is now a tall lad - kisses your hand. Praying for your health and happiness in this world and everlasting peace in the world to come.

Yours with me best love,

Lydia Bates Fletcher, Concord in the Plantation of Massachusetts. June 1, 1632.



This letter was transcribed in 2011 from a photocopy of two typed pages, held in Scrooby Parish Council's archive. The letter is introduced, in the same type, with this passage:

This is a copy of a letter written by an early American colonist on June 1, 1632, who lived in Concord, Plantation of Massachusetts. In this letter are expressed the views of the colonists in establishing Thanksgiving Day. Reference to this letter may be found in the *National Geographic Magazine*, June 1953, page 803.

Following the letter is a hand-written note, which reads, "Frank Fletcher Harvey was a lineal descendant of Lydia Bates Fletcher who wrote to her husband's sister in England in 1632. The original letter is in Scrooby, England. In National Geographic magazine for June 1953 page 803 by Sir Evelyn Wrench."

National Wreaths Across America Day

by Keith Morris

Sixty degree weather greeted the several hundred volunteers in remembering and honoring the fallen by the laying of wreaths at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis on December 16, 2017. This year an incredible 10,000 wreaths were donated to be placed around the cemetery, marking the largest showing at Jefferson Barracks since the program began almost a decade ago.

As in years past, during the ceremony I spoke to the audience about our Pilgrim ancestors, their contributions to our history and why we as a country should participate in events like the national Wreaths Across America day.

After the ceremony conclusion, I and others from our Society along with members of the Fernando De Leyba and Spirit of St. Louis Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution laid wreaths at the headstones of the fallen Revolutionary War soldiers and deceased members of both chapters.

I am extremely happy and proud to report that the Missouri Society contributed great numbers of wreaths towards the 2017 event. At last count the Society donated over 83 wreaths, meeting 101% of our wreath goal and for a total rebate of \$415 toward our scholarship fund.



Mimi and Steve White
at the grave of Marti White



I am looking forward to another successful year of fundraising for both our scholarship fund as well as this wonderful organization that remembers the fallen, honors those that are serving or have served in our country's military and teaches the next generation that Freedom is not free.

Members of the S. A. R. (including Mayflower Society members Don Palmer, Sumner Hunnewell, and Steve Baldwin) lay a wreath before a stone marker honoring unknown Revolutionary War soldiers.

William White Genealogical Discoveries

from Earlene Lawrence

Exciting news was announced by researcher Caleb Johnson at the September Mayflower Triennial Congress in Plymouth. The English origin of William White has been a mystery. Was he in Leiden or did he and Susanna board the *Mayflower* in England? What was Susanna's maiden name? Unanswered questions until now.

Information has been found that William White was in Leiden. He was baptized on 25 January 1586/7 at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, England, the son of Edward and Thomasine (Cross) (May) White. Susanna's maiden name is Jackson and she is the daughter of Richard and Mary (Pettinger) Jackson. The entire research of Caleb Johnson with sources will be featured in issues in volume 89 of *The American Genealogist*, the first part can be found in April's issue, which was published in September. (Further details can be found on Caleb Johnson's website: <http://mayflowerhistory.com/white-william>.)

These findings give hope to all those researchers who come up against a "brick wall" in their research. There is still information to be found! There is a Pilgrim William White Society. For information about membership contact Prairie Counce at prariec@me.com.

From the Bookshelf

by Sumner Hunnewell

It is always fun to run across something interesting, sometimes rare, and informative having to do with your family's past. So, when I saw *The First Plymouth Patent* come up for sale, I thought it would be a good thing to have and to read.

Thought lost, the patent was found in Plymouth, England, and its contents were originally transcribed in the *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*. The commentator on the patent, Charles Deane, felt it necessary to privately publish 100 copies of it in 1854 for his own pleasure (my copy, No. 47, is a presentation copy given to Rev. Chandler Robbins of the Second Church of Boston). It is a thin book, blind stamped with gilt-edged papers. The introduction by Deane is eight pages and the patent itself is no longer than that.

Deane explains, "Finding themselves beyond the bounds of their patent, which therefore became 'void and useless,' on the return of the *Mayflower* in May, 1621, they made application, through the Merchant Adventurers...for a grant of the territory on which they had unintentionally settled...."

I find the patent itself terribly vague! What I found interesting was the expectation that corn, silk grass, hemp, flax, pitch, tar, soap ashes, potashes, iron, and clapboard would be commodities to be produced by the settlers for export. Interested? Read on-line for yourself here: <https://tinyurl.com/y9n58cew>.

Colony News

The Ozark Colony Fall luncheon was held on Saturday, October 28, 2017, at the Golden Corral Buffet in Springfield, Missouri. Patti Hobbs of the Ozarks Genealogical Society presented an informative speech on DNA.

The Heart of America Colony held its fall luncheon on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. on November 11, 2017, at Places Restaurant in Lee's Summit, Missouri. Guest Speaker was Mr. David Nitzsche, Historian, dressed in pilgrim costuming presented "Mayflower and Beyond."



David Nitzsche

Scholarship Information

This year's theme of the Missouri Mayflower Scholarship is "The Fare of the First Thanksgiving." The deadline for receiving Scholarship applications is Thursday, March 1, 2018.

The Missouri Mayflower Scholarship Contest is open to any high school senior who is a resident of the State of Missouri and a Citizen of the United States, and who is planning to attend an institution of higher learning in the fall of 2018. For 2018, three scholarship awards are offered in the amount of \$1500 for 1st place, \$1000 for 2nd place, and \$500 for 3rd place. The scholarships will be payable to the students' accounts at the colleges or universities in which they have enrolled. Go to <http://momayflower.org/scholarships/> to download the application and requirements.

Radio Show Tidbits

Sumner Hunnewell

Being an old time radio fan, I am passing these along for your enjoyment.

The *Mayflower* is about ready to sail while everyone waits for the Charter to arrive in CBS's *You Are There* episode "The Exodus of the Pilgrims" (aired December 21, 1947) found at <https://tinyurl.com/ycx8vory>.

The Mullins/Alden/Standish love story is told with a twist on NBC's *The [Jimmy] Durante - [Garry] Moore Show* episode featuring the "Thanksgiving Pilgrim Opera" (aired November 22, 1946) found at <https://tinyurl.com/y7owvtln>

In the 1940's Cincinnati-based kid's radio show "Big John and Sparky," the character of Capt. Squinty has a ship called the *Apple Blossom*.

Many Thanks to Our Donors in 2017!

⊗ *Sylvia Grote* ⊗ *Susan Gilbert* ⊗ *Sidney Harris* ⊗ *Sarah Sullivan* ⊗ *Ruth Cox*
 ⊗ *Pence Rogers* ⊗ *Marlene Woodbury* ⊗ *Mark Leiber* ⊗ *Lois Brodbeck* ⊗ *Kathryn Bakich*
 ⊗ *Jeffery Thornton* ⊗ *Jacqueline Byrd* ⊗ *Francis Pattarini* ⊗ *Earlene Lawrence*
 ⊗ *Carol Ferman* ⊗ *Barbara Asdell* ⊗ *Ann Reynolds*

Membership updates

New members

⊗ 13 Sep 2017 Deborah Lynne (née Nichols) Shearer, Lee's Summit, Descendant of John Billington
 ⊗ 27 Sep 2017 Mary Ann (née McCormack) Van Horn, Des Peres, Descendant of John Alden
 ⊗ 29 Sep 2017 Becky Lynn (née Baltzell) Miller, Nixa, Descendant of Stephen Hopkins

Transferred

⊗ From Illinois, 15 Nov 2017 Myra Jean Lopez, University City, Descendant of John Howland

Junior Members

⊗ **Nicholas Flynn Schulze**, Missouri, descendant of William Brewster
 ⊗ **Cameron Daniel Schulze**, Missouri, descendant of William Brewster
 ⊗ **Alex Daniel Jones**, Missouri, descendant of William Brewster
 ⊗ **Caleb Douglas Jones**, Missouri, descendant of William Brewster
 ⊗ **Laura Michelle Jones**, Missouri, descendant of William Brewster
 ⊗ **Simon Daniel Martin**, Montana, descendant of William Brewster
 ⊗ **Morgan Kelly Martin**, Montana, descendant of William Brewster
 ⊗ **Liam Nathaniel Jones**, Missouri, descendant of William Brewster

Statistics

Total Missouri Membership: 317. Total Junior Membership: 119. Total visits to momayflower.org website since January 2017 is 21,851.

Reminder

Send all changes of name, address, phone number, or email address to Secretary Earlene Lawrence at elawrence746@sbcglobal.net .

The Missouri Compact

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Missouri

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2018 Calendar

1 March Missouri Mayflower Scholarship Contest deadline.

24 March The Ozark Colony Spring luncheon at the Golden Corral Buffet, Springfield, Missouri.

Yearly Dues

All those who have not paid membership dues by December 31, 2017 will be dropped from membership as of that date. Membership dues for 2018 are due January 1, 2018. Please send dues (\$35.00) to: Treasurer, Missouri Mayflower Society, Joan Gooding, 10538 Alswell Court, St. Louis, MO 63128.

Have you enrolled your grandchildren in Mayflower Junior Membership? It's a bargain at \$25.00. Go to <http://www.momayflower.org> for details.