

The Missouri Compact

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

Volume 33, Number 3

September A. D. 2019

From the Governor's Quill

It's an exciting time to be a part of our Society as we approach the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower. I hope to see many of you at the business meeting / luncheon this month and the Compact Luncheon in November. Everyone felt that both venues suit our need quite nicely.

Another event that I'm looking forward to is participating in this year's Thanksgiving Day Parade in St. Louis. Every member and prospective member is welcome to join us and you don't need to dress in Pilgrim garb to participate!



Gov. Sumner Hunnewell

We have two Important Announcements that deserve your attention!



The first is that we are producing a Membership Directory. If you care not to have any of your information published, see page 11 and respond appropriately by October 15.



The second item is that we have a member who has offered matching funds up to \$1000 for any donation postmarked by December 31. As always, an 8"x10" Cedric Hustace *Mayflower* print is given for a donation of \$100-249 and an 11"x14" print is given for a donation of \$250 or more to the scholarship fund.

Please consider this as well as Wreaths Across America (see page 3) as our scholarship fund is short \$2000 for the coming year.

—Sumner G. Hunnewell

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General Society of Mayflower Descendants Breakfast

Army-Navy Club, Washington, D. C., April 10

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants held their second annual breakfast on April 10 at the Army-Navy Club in Washington, D. C. The Governor General explained the Society's efforts through the Past Governor General Lea Filson to purchase the land and structure where the original meeting house of the Pilgrims stood. He also had the opportunity to meet with the Four Nations at the New England Genealogical Historic Society. Insignia chair Jane Schleinzer showed off the new scarfs, four-in-hand ties, and bow ties (in new colors). This was followed by individual introductions around the room.

The speaker, Mark Tabbert, is the Director of Collections with the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, which years ago created a museum in Alexandria, Virginia. The museum monies were raised over a decade (1922-31) and the museum was dedicated with 18,000 people in attendance. (As a side note, Harry S Truman was a masonic Grand Master in Missouri.)



Tabbert gave a synopsis of the character of Washington, the subject of his speech "A Deserving Brother: George Washington and Freemasonry." Washington had little formal education and was "more a man of action than contemplation." He was a man of strict habits as well as physical and moral courage. The future father of our country married a widow with four children. He was a land surveyor and was always trying to obtain more land. Washington enjoyed fox hunting and dogs, and he lost significant money gambling before his marriage. He was a renowned horseman and loved to dance.

In 1750 he travelled to Barbados, the only time he ever left the country, and survived a bout of smallpox. Although not an international traveler, he was well-traveled within the colonies. Washington was a vestryman, attending many types of churches, and read the *Holy Bible* everyday. He was never confirmed because there was no Anglican bishop in the United States.

The speaker gave a history of Freemasonry. In the 1730s, the first lodges were formed in the colonies. (In 1960, there were 15,000 lodges / four million members; today there are 8,000 lodges / one million members.) Washington's involvement started in Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1752-73. From 1778-83, he attended three meetings, including a St. John's celebration. During 1787-89, he was a lodge member in Alexandria. He never exercised his masonic office or authority.

The King James *Bible* from a New York lodge was used for his inauguration and can be found in Fraunces Tavern in New York City. (Fraunces Tavern was the location of Washington's farewell speech to his officers and currently owned by the Sons of the Revolution.)

Disclaimer: These notes were taken during the breakfast and the chronicler has no experience with freemasonry (but he does have experience with the excellent bacon served at the Army-Navy Club). He wishes that the programs would not be about Washington.

New Members

New members—some newly discovered cousins

- ❖ **Sherburne Wentworth Dunn**, Olathe, Kansas, Descendant of William Bradford, dual member with the New York Society
- ❖ **Allen Wesley Pelsner**, Lebanon, Descendant of Richard Warren
- ❖ **Karen (née Perkins) Lovell**, Ballwin, Descendant of Mary Norris
- ❖ **Kathleen Miller Evans**, St. Louis, Descendant of John Alden
- ❖ **Thomas Lindsey Skinner**, Collinsville, Illinois, Descendant of John Alden, dual member with the Illinois Society
- ❖ **Elaine Atha Merriman**, Palm Beach, Florida, Descendant of William Brewster
- ❖ **Vicki Lee Smith**, Kansas City, Descendant of Richard Warren, dual member with the South Carolina Society

Many thanks to our Historian, Damon Hayward!

Wreathes Across America and our Scholarship Fund



Wreathes Across America is an annual effort to decorate every grave at our national military cemeteries every year on the third Saturday in December. It is an amazing undertaking by family members, Scouts, veterans' organizations, and hereditary societies. In sun, rain, or snow, people attend a short ceremony and then scatter throughout the cemetery to lay pine wreaths on graves.

For many years now our Past Governor Keith Morris has been leading the effort to collect donations for Wreathes Across America. Please contact him about purchasing wreathes, a part of the money raised will be applied towards our scholarship fund.

Keith's email is mayflowermor620@aol.com.

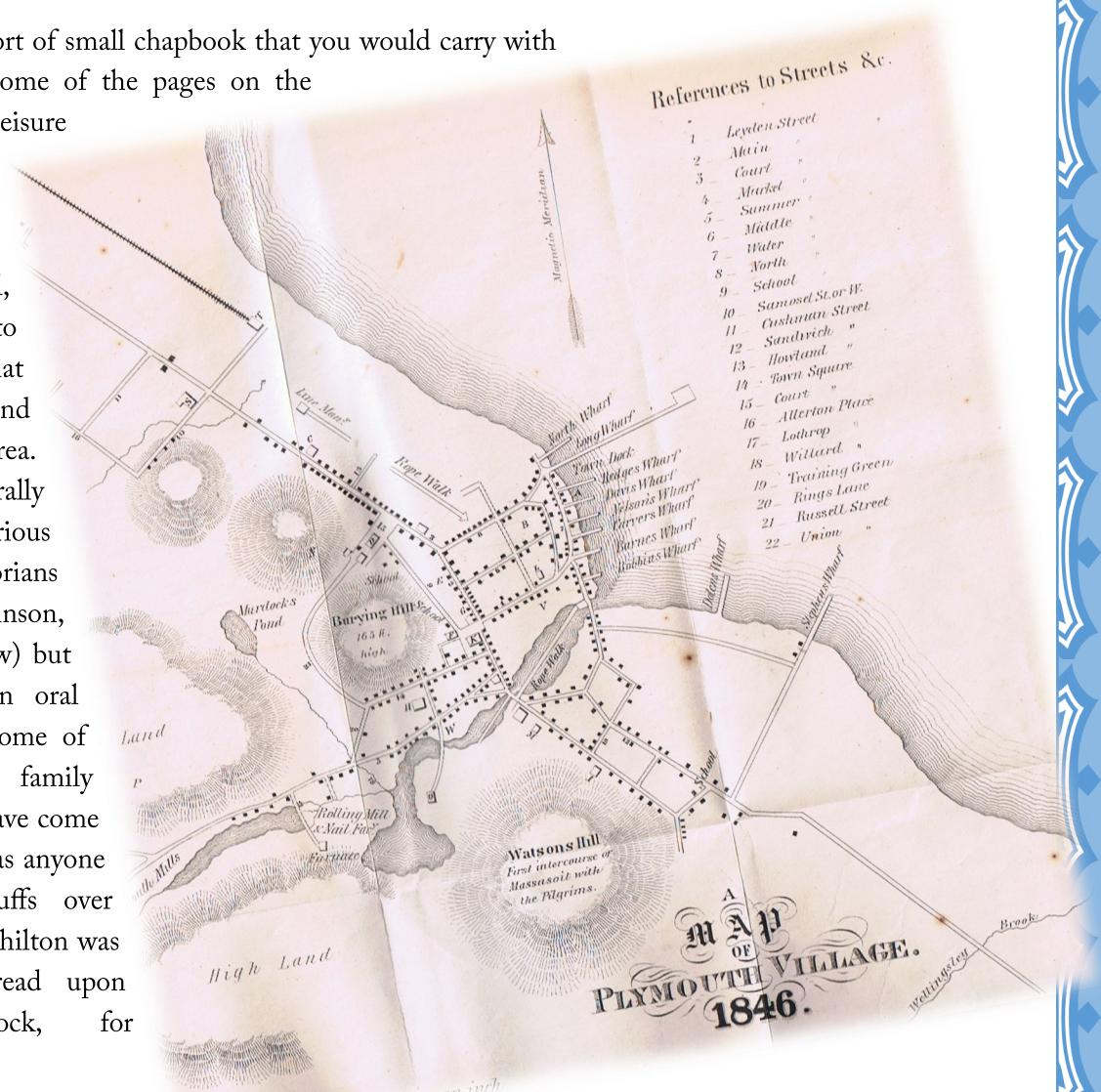
Visiting Plymouth 168 Years Ago

Imagine that you are in Boston or environs and you are looking for a way to get away from the metropolis to someplace reasonable to be entertained. Someone suggests a visit to Plymouth because everyone has grown up knowing about the Pilgrims and didn't your ancestors come from there? They have just put in a railroad terminus for the newly vaunted Old Colony R. R. about a half-dozen years before. So you head to your favorite bookseller, who suggests *Pilgrim Memorials, and Guide to Plymouth* by William S. Russell.

This is the sort of small chapbook that you would carry with you—scanning some of the pages on the train or at your leisure to prepare for your visit to Plymouth.

Above all, Russell wants to get you out of that hotel or tavern and explore the area. The book liberally quotes from various orators and historians (Choate, Hutchinson, Everett, Winslow) but also depends on oral history to tell some of the legends / family traditions that have come down to us. (Has anyone come to fisticuffs over whether Mary Chilton was the first to tread upon Plymouth Rock, for instance?)

Russell presents the background of the Pilgrims, their exploration, settlement and suffering. He describes the streets that you will be walking down and who lived on them. He takes you on a tour of the Billington Sea, Clark's Island, Cole's Hill,



Watson's Hill, and Captain's Hill in nearby Duxbury. He doesn't embellish the stories of the natives Samoset and Massasoit, but rather quotes from first-hand sources. There is *no* reference to the celebration of Thanksgiving!

Walking through Burial Hill, Russell makes you stop to look at the epitaphs on tombstones of (perhaps) some of your ancestors and gives you some additional information, such as

Dr. [Francis] Le Baron was a surgeon on board a French privateer, which was wrecked in Buzzard's Bay. He came to Plymouth, and having performed an important surgical operation, the selectmen petitioned the Executive of the Colony for his liberation as prisoner of war, that he might settle in this town. We believe that from this ancestor all of the name in the United States are descended.

He also describes the events around the the brig *General Arnold*, which was wrecked off-shore in December 1778 and the death of over 70 sailors who perished from the freezing elements. A mass grave was created and a monument dedicated to them. ("The dead were piled on the floor of the Court House, and it is said that Dr. Robbins fainted when called to perform the religious services.")

Russell makes it plain that the *earliest* Plymouth (not just *Mayflower*) settlers were revered by their descendants. The Old Colony Club was started in 1769 due to the "many disadvantages and inconveniences that arise from intermixing with the company at the taverns in this town" and held their first celebration that year. In 1820 The Pilgrim Society was founded and thirty years later it was decided to erect a monument at or near Plymouth Rock, which was eventually accomplished in 1889 as the Pilgrim Monument. Many of the artifacts of Pilgrim Hall (cornerstone laid in 1824) are listed. One wonders whether they are all still there.



Apple tree planted by Peregrin White (1648)

The second edition, which was published 1855, carries the exciting notice of the founding of Gov. Bradford's manuscript history, seen and quoted by Prince in his *Annals of New-England* (1736) but thought lost forever.

As commonly found in books of this time and place, the reader will also find details about the geography, plant life, industries, population, etc., of Plymouth. Also, there are eight copperplate engravings as well as a fold-out map.

There was a lot to see in the 1800s, even more today. Let's go!

Magic Lantern Slides

Before there was PowerPoint, carousel slides, filmstrips, "talkies," or silent films, there were magic lantern slides. "What," I hear you ask, "Are they?" Professional magic lantern slides were glass slides (3 1/4" x 4") that would be projected onto a screen. It was not uncommon for people to travel to towns and give shows whether it was on the life of Christ, or *Pilgrim's Progress*, or wonders of the world. If it could be photographed, it could be put onto a magic lantern slide, some of which were hand colored.

Plymouth, Pilgrim, and *Mayflower* topics were common. Here are some examples.



The Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers (Charles Lucy)



Plymouth Rock, View of Canopy



Plymouth Statue Erected to the Pilgrims (see p. 5)



Chest of Miles Standish

Looking for a Gift Idea?

For family birthdays or Christmas, consider giving Mayflower membership to your sons and daughters, and grandchildren. Kids ages 0 – 18 do not need to prove lineage. All you need to do is sponsor them for a one-time fee of \$25. For adults, you have already done most of the research to bring them into the fold. It's simple to connect them to their Mayflower passenger(s) from your application. The turn around for Junior Membership is about one week. The process for adult membership approval takes months. Get started now. Plan ahead for upcoming birthdays and Christmas giving.

Contact Marietta Boenker at mayflowereditor@yahoo.com or 816-524-1817 for information

Cannons to Be Replaced

"Wednesday the 21. of February [1621], the master came on shore with many of his Saylers, and brought with him one of the great Peeces, called a *Minion*, and helped vs to draw it vp the hill, with another Peece that lay on shore, and mounted them, and a faller [faker] and two bases; he brought with him a very fat Goose to eate with vs and we had a fat Crane, and a Mallerd, and a dry'd neats-tongue, so so wee were kindly and friendly together." - *Mourt's Relation* (ed. Dexter, 1865), 81-82.

We learn this about the original cannons that were placed in Plymouth. In 1920, it was reputed that the London's Honourable Artillery Company (HAC) had provided the ordnance and through the HAC and the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston that two similar cannons were procured and dedicated in 1921. The artillery has since been removed.



Tercentennial Postcard

However, as a part of the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower landing, the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company will be providing two new replica cannons. More details to follow!

Two Items from the NEGHS

The New England Genealogical Historic Society's *Register* v. 173 (Summer 2019) has news on the parentage of **Isaac Allerton**. "The Origin and Parentage of Mayflower Passenger Isaac Allerton in East Bergholt, Suffolk, by Caleb Johnson, Sue Allan, and Simon Neal. Using...recusant lists and manorial records...the authors have shown that Isaac Allerton was the son of Bartholomew and Mary (____) Allerton / Alderton of East Bergholt. This success came after an extensive review of probate indexes and potentially relevant parish registers for Suffolk and nearby Essex."

And speaking of parishes, the NEGHS also has a free interactive map, showing parish by parish those early immigrants from Old England to New England. It allows you to choose an immigrant and 'drill down' to a parish. <https://www.americanancestors.org/specials/great-migration-parish-map>

Internet Scam: Favors

Please note that NO Society Officer will contact you and ask you to do him or her a favor by sending gift cards. NO Society Officer will be stranded in the Philippines without wallet / purse and need your assistance.

These are common scams of which you should be aware and are making the rounds in various hereditary societies.

Officer Contact Information

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Governor, Heart of America Colony (Greater Kansas City), Terri Hardy, basketerri@yahoo.com

Governor, Greater Ozark Colony (Springfield area), Stanley Coryell, stanleycoryell@yahoo.com

IMPORTANT: Membership Directory

The Missouri Society plans to send members a professionally printed membership directory.

All member information will be included unless you opt out.

THE DIRECTORY WILL BE SENT TO MEMBERS ONLY
AND NOT DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF THE MISSOURI SOCIETY.

If you wish to opt out of sharing any information, please check the boxes below and return to Kathy Muckula, Recording Secretary, 726 Black Walnut Lane, Marshfield, MO 65706-9193 or e-mail muckala@centurytel.net.

Your opt-out information must be received by October 10, 2019, if you care to opt out of any information.

- All information about me.
- My postal address
- My email address
- My telephone number

If any of your personal information has **changed**, please update below.

Name:

Address:

E-mail:

Telephone number:



Plymouth from the Burying Hill (1846)

The Missouri Compact

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Missouri

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The Missouri Compact Editor

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2019 Calendar

September 4-8, General Board of Assistants meeting, Denver.

September 28, 11:30 a.m. Business meeting / luncheon, CJ Muggs, 101 W. Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves.

October 19, Saturday, 2 p. m., Board of Assistants meeting at the Hunnewell's, Arnold.

October 26, Saturday, 11:30 a. m. - 2 p. m. **Greater Ozark Colony**. Fall meeting and luncheon will be held at the Golden Corral Buffet and Grill, 2734 N. Kansas Expressway, Springfield. Contact: Cathy Pickett, Colony Secretary, 417-888-0135.

November 9, 11:00 a.m., **Heart of America Colony** will meet at Places Restaurant in John Knox Village, Lee's Summit. The speaker will be Stephen Sullins discussing The Pinkertons. Contact: Terri Hardy, Colony Governor, basketterri@yahoo.com.

November 23, 11:30 a. m., Mayflower Compact Luncheon, Greenbriar Hills Country Club 12665 Big Bend Rd, Kirkwood.

November 28, Thanksgiving Day Parade, St. Louis.

December 21, Saturday, Wreaths Across America.

December 21, Saturday, 2 p. m., Board of Assistants meeting at the Hunnewell's, Arnold.

