

The Missouri Compact

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

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January A. D. 2021

From the Governor's Quill

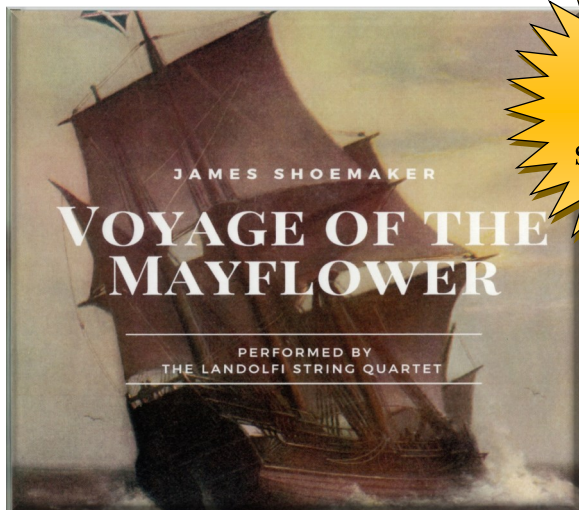
It can only get better, right? Many of us have dealt with personal tragedies in 2020, day-to-day inconveniences, and long-term plans abandoned or shelved. We can only hope and pray that 2021 will be a rebound year for us.

After the disappointment of cancelling our Compact Luncheon at the last minute, I thank those who attended our online *Mayflower* toast. We had a great time and the performance of the Landolfi String Quartet was perfectly executed, bringing past governor James Shoemaker's music to life. We have his daughter, Kate, to thank for that as she funded the entire performance. CDs were made of James' music and are available for \$12 postpaid. Send checks made out to the "Missouri Mayflower Society" to Sumner Hunnewell, 2030 San Pedro Dr., Arnold, MO 63010. Proceeds will be split between our Society, the quartet, and Kate Shoemaker.



Gov. Sumner Hunnewell

We are looking forward to our Spring Luncheon on April 11. Details are inside this issue!



CDs
available for
\$12 postpaid

Inside This Issue

- 1 From the Governor's Quill
- 2 The Ladies of the *Mayflower*
- 4 Mayflower (Forefathers' Day) Toast
- 6 A Look Back: Rev. Mr. Green's Sermon 1828
- 8 New Members/Supplementals/Juniors
- 9 Donors / Spring Luncheons / Necrology
- 10 Gov. Michael L. Parson's Mayflower Day Proclamation
- 11 Letter from the British Consul, the Hon. Mark Sutherland
- 12 Calendar

The Ladies of the Mayflower

by Damon Hayward, Society Historian

All too often, when researching our past and celebrating our genealogical and historical heritage, our attention is directed at the collective group of men that are now referred to as our "Pilgrim Fathers." While I certainly acknowledge and respect the vast impact and role they had on shaping our past and contributing to our present, I wanted to use this space graciously allotted to me to write about the women of the *Mayflower*, some of this country's "Founding Mothers," if you will. Their personal hope, endless hard work, indomitable spirit, selfless sacrifice and trust in the men they followed to this New World became the backbone and framework on which the survival of the initial Colony depended. Their numerous and often unsung efforts are the reason we, their numerous descendants, are alive and thriving today.

When I think of mothers, and specifically of my Mom, a few quotes come to mind:

A mother is a person who seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces that she never did care much for pie.

The phrase "a working mother" is redundant. An ounce of Mother is worth a pound of Clergy.

If you have a Mother, there is nowhere you are likely to go where a prayer has not already been.

Just who were these ladies who made the journey on the *Mayflower*?

On that intrepid and historic voyage there were eighteen adult women on board the *Mayflower*. All of them were married. Three of them were pregnant in their third trimester at the time. While none of these ladies died during the crossing of the Atlantic, 78% of them would die in the first winter. This is a much higher percentage than the mortality rate of the men and the children combined. What a sacrifice of life and love on the altar of vision, hope and history.

Upon arrival at the Colony site, the men embarked to the land and began working. There was hunting, building, fishing and creating the infrastructure of the new Colony to be tended to on a daily basis. The women remained on the *Mayflower* for the initial two month Atlantic crossing, as well as another additional four months. Six months they lived and survived on that small ship, an entire half of a year. They stayed on board, living, cooking, feeding, cleaning, and



taking care of the sick and children in incredibly cramped and close quarters. Can you imagine staying inside of your house, with all of your possessions on earth, along with your children and numerous friends for a full six months?

Sacrifice is the word that comes to my mind.

When we consider the *Mayflower* voyage, the settling of Plymouth Colony and our own personal histories, we often turn towards that first Thanksgiving of the Pilgrims. What might that humble celebration and joyous occasion have been like for these women? Imagine hosting a dinner in your neighborhood to give thanks for your survival and to give thanks for all the blessings that come with life. Your guest list includes fifty grown men, all of the children of the Colony and an unknown number of Native Americans who joined them. Not to worry, you might think, you will have others to help you.

Four. There were exactly four women left to take care and feed all of them, not just for that day's meal but for every single day of existence. They cooked the meals each day, when there was food available, over an open fire in crude fireplaces. They made the bread, planted the gardens, tended and milked the livestock, watched over and taught the children, cleaned and ran their homes, churned butter, spun yarn, wove cloth, mended clothing and all the other endless tasks that fell to them out of necessity. They took care of their husbands. They loved and raised their children. They were wives and mothers in a New World. Can we even imagine how lonely and hard that life must have been? They moved from civilized and established places in Europe to live in a desolate and unsettled land. They are an example for each of us today, men and women alike.



These women were selfless and strong. They were people not unlike each of us. They lived, loved, worked, breathed, ate and slept as we all do and they put forth an effort that not only ensured the survival of the Colony but are the reason that we, as descendants, are here today. We cannot and should not forget what they did and how their contribution and lives affect us to this very day. The next time we turn our eyes and hearts back to consider the *Mayflower*, Plymouth Colony, and the first Thanksgiving, let us remember them and express our thanks for the ladies that made this country great. Without these women, these mothers, these Ladies of the *Mayflower*, there would be no General Society of Mayflower Descendants, no family history and no personal heritage. We owe them our lives.

Mayflower (Forefathers' Day) Toast

Online event, December 21, 2020

About 20 members, prospective members, and guests participated online to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the landing of our ancestors on Plymouth Rock. Governor Hunnewell gave opening remarks, reading from *Mourt's Relation* about the landing. He then described the events that occurred with the newly-formed Old Colony Club in 1769 and their celebration in Plymouth, Massachusetts. This included a nine-course meal. (Christy Scott recreated some of the baked dishes for the event.)



Roel Harryvan, Dutch Consul

Governor Hunnewell requested that those present to “Charge your glasses.” Following the toasts given in 1769 at the Old Colony Club, officers Ann McReynolds, Christy Scott, Sumner Hunnewell, and Dutch Consul, Roel Harryvan, re-toasted anew.

- ◆ *Christy* To the memory of John Carver and all the other worthy Governors of the Old Colony. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To the worthy Governors!”*
- ◆ *Sumner* To the memory of that pious man and faithful historian, Mr. Secretary Morton. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To Mr. Morton!”*
- ◆ *Roel* To the memory of that brave man and good officer, Capt. Miles Standish. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To Capt. Standish!”*
- ◆ *Christy* To the memory of Massasoit, our first and best friend, and ally of the Natives. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To the Great King Massasoit!”*
- ◆ *Sumner* To the memory of Mr. Robert Cushman, who preached the first sermon in New England. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To Mr. Robert Cushman!”*
- ◆ *Ann* The union of the Old Colony and Massachusetts. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To Massachusetts!”*
- ◆ *Roel* May every person be possessed of the same noble sentiments against arbitrary power that our worthy ancestors were endowed with. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To noble men and women!”*
- ◆ *Sumner* May every enemy to civil or religious liberty meet the same or a worse fate than Arch Bishop Laud. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To upholders of civil and religious liberty!”*
- ◆ *Christy* May the Colonies be speedily delivered from all the burthens and oppressions they now labor under. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To freedom from oppression!”*
- ◆ *Ann* A speedy and lasting union between Great Britain and her Colonies. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To Great Britain and the United States of America!”*
- ◆ *Roel* Unanimity, prosperity, and happiness to the Colonies. *Ladies and gentlemen, “To our current and future happiness!”*



**Tom Winter
of the Landolfi Quartet**

After the toasts, Sumner introduced Kate Shoemaker. Kate's late father, past governor James Shoemaker, created the nine movement piece for string quartet. Kate fulfilled her father's wishes to have the Landolfi Quartet perform. Our plans to debut it at the Compact Luncheon were scuttled due to the pandemic, but she worked with the Quartet to have it recorded. Each movement was also preceded by a voice over,

written by James, while pictures (some supplied graciously by Plimoth-Patuxet) were displayed. The recording was fabulously choreographed and kept everyone's attention.

After the performance, it was time for questions and answers. Since we celebrated separately, the attendees were asked to send in photos of themselves, which you will see here.

The Shoemakers



Clockwise:

**Lise Criswell,
Sylvia Hunnewell,
Mary Beth Garasky,
Sumner Hunnewell,
and Christy Scott
with her baked
recreations**



A Look Back

Sermons, Orations, and Discourses for Forefathers' Day

A Discourse Delivered at Plymouth, Dec. 20, 1828, on the Two Hundred and Eighth Anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers (Boston: Peirce & Williams, 1829), 36 pages.

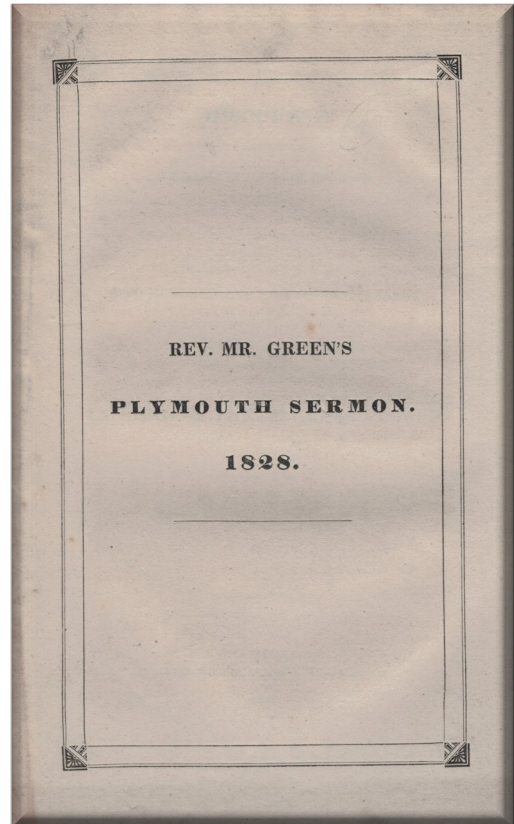
Udo J. Hebel described the ground swelling of pride for our Mayflower ancestors and the Puritans that followed them in his ["Forefathers' Day Orations, 1769-1865: An Introduction and Checklist."](#) He listed well over 100 different sermons and orations given across the country, delivered close to December 21, known as Forefathers' Day.

One of these was an 1828 discourse, given in Plymouth, by Rev. Samuel Green of the Union Church, Essex Street, Boston, which was published the following year. Rev. Green provided an hour long (and heavily sourced) discussion for his hearers. He takes for his text, Psalm 40, verses 1 and 3. *We have heard with our ears O God, our fathers have told us, what works thou didst in their days, in the times of old. For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them; but they right hand and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favor unto them.*

Rev. Green drew a comparison with the escape of the Israelites from Egypt and those who fled to the New World. He discussed the English Reformation and the plight of the Separatists and the Puritans during their persecutions and (in some cases) martyrdom. Often, he lumps together the two sects.

The pastor extolled the Puritans, their piety, and morals (including activity during the English Civil War) for much of the discourse. It has been repeated in enough historical texts to be true that during the first generation of Puritan settlers, cursing, being drunk, and begging were unknown. He wrote

They were the firm advocates of civil liberty, a characteristic of men eminent for piety; but civil liberty was not the all absorbing consideration. Religion, the pure religion of Jesus Christ, with them was the first and last object of pursuit. They could die in slavery, or perish in poverty; they could wear out their lives in banishment, or expire amidst savage tortures; but having known by blessed experience the power of holy truth, they could not relinquish, either for themselves or their children, its uninterrupted enjoyment.



Rev. Green then praised the creation of Harvard, Puritan literacy, and the institution of grammar schools throughout the colony. He continues with the proclamation of the Gospel to the native population.

Congregations were changing in Rev. Green's time. Arianism was on the rise. Harvard's president had come into his position without disclosing his Unitarian beliefs. There were many Congregational churches which dismissed Calvinism and became Unitarian in their doctrine, rejecting the orthodoxy and tribulation of their ancestors. He was firmly against church membership, which did not include the spiritual element of regeneration.

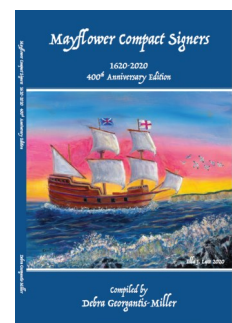
Why did they [the Separatists and Puritans] secede from the half reformed churches of the mother country? Was not one of their principal and most notorious complaints this, that evidence of regeneration was not made a condition of membership, that the salutary discipline enjoined in the Gospel was discarded and that the church was reduced to a moral level with the world? Yet there are those who are making strenuous efforts to break down the distinction between the church and the world; and in so doing, they even have the presumption to appeal to the usage of our forefathers: and when driven from this ground by a thousand infallible witnesses, they gravely tell us they are *improving* upon the usage of our fathers. An improvement upon their usage to abandon a principle, which they rescued from the desolations of a thousand years at the price of blood! Is it not rather a relapse into the laxity and worldliness of popery? Sons of the Pilgrims, forget not, down to the latest generation, that, in the view of your pious ancestors, the glory and strength of Zion consists in her purity. Reduce her to the level of the world, and you not only obscure her light, and paralyze her energies, but destroy her very existence.

He described the worldliness of many of the churches of his day. "Ichabod is inscribed upon their walls." However, he does not give up on the spreading of the Gospel even to "the dark forests of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri."

And with some hubris he stated "Never did children assemble to pay a tribute to the venerated dead, under such a weight of obligation, as that which this moment presses upon us. Never did sublimer associations gather around a mere human event. We here offer not the gratitude of New England, but the gratitude of the *world*."

And drawing to a close, he recalled the names of Brewster, Carver, Winslow, Bradford, and Alden, hoping to draw a last "Pilgrim" connection with his audience. He exhorts all his hearers, "Sons of New England, would you join that glorified band of your Pilgrim fathers? ... Serve their God, adore their Saviour, fly to that cross, which they found as the show of a great rock in a weary land."

Mayflower Compact Signers, 1620-2020 400th Anniversary Edition provides detailed biographies for each of the signers and offers links to living descendants, making it a valuable library reference and great gift for any *Mayflower* descendant, student, or history buff. It may be purchased on the Pennsylvania Mayflower Society store website at www.sail1620.org for \$21.00, which includes shipping. The book is lightweight and portable, 5.5" x 8.5" in size with 102 pages and a soft cover binding.



Welcome New Members!

New members—some newly discovered cousins

- ✿ Julia Fields (née Fields) Jackson, Kansas City, descendant of Isaac Allerton (dual with the South Carolina Society)
- ✿ Cynthia Ann Meiners, St. Louis, descendant of John Howland
- ✿ Kevin Brent Bunting, Overland Park, Kansas, descendant of William Bradford
- ✿ Richard Thomas Black, Crystal Lake, Illinois, descendant of John Alden
- ✿ Cynthia Rae (née Richards) Gross, Odessa, descendant of William Bradford
- ✿ John Joseph O'Toole, Kansas City, descendant of George Soule
- ✿ William Roy Spratt, Marietta, Georgia, descendant of John Alden
- ✿ Cheryl Rose (née Koertge) Taylor, Highland, Illinois, descendant of John Alden
- ✿ Teresa Elayne Van Gilder Moore, Lamar, descendant of William Bradford
- ✿ Shaun D. Powers, Kansas City, descendant of Isaac Allerton
- ✿ Barth Wilkinson Wright, Parkville, descendant of Edward Fuller
- ✿ David Walter Fuller, Parkville, descendant of Edward Fuller
- ✿ Charlotte Annamay (née Baldwin) Shelburne, St. Charles, descendant of Edward Fuller
- ✿ Steven Dale Stopke, St. Charles, descendant of William Brewster

Supplemental applications approved

- ✿ Sumner Gary Hunnewell, Arnold, descendant of Ellinor Billington
- ✿ Damon Ralph Hayward, Kansas City, descendant of Elizabeth Tilley, John Tilley, and Joan (Hurst) (Rogers) Tilley
- ✿ John Edward Charles, Springfield, descendant of John Howland, Joan (Hurst) (Rogers) Tilley, and Elizabeth Tilley
- ✿ Amy Owers (née Brodbeck) Anderson, St. Louis, descendant of Peter Brown
- ✿ Cynthia Rae (née Richards) Gross, Odessa, descendant of John Alden, Priscilla Mullins, William Mullins, William Brewster, and Richard Warren
- ✿ Katrina Colette (née Crissler) Prater, Platte Woods, descendant of Constance Hopkins
- ✿ Cynthia Ann Meiner, St. Louis, descendant of Elizabeth Tilley, John Tilley, Joan (Hurst) (Rogers) Tilley
- ✿ John Joseph O'Toole, Kansas City, descendant of John Alden, Priscilla Mullins, William Mullins, Myles Standish
- ✿ William Roy Spratt, Marietta, Ga., descendant of Priscilla Mullins, William Mullins
- ✿ John Edward Charles, Springfield, descendant of Stephen Hopkins

New Juniors Members

- ✿ Reece LaRae Todd, granddaughter of Barbara J. Todd, descendant of William Bradford
- ✿ Olivia Grace Todd, granddaughter of Barbara J. Todd, descendant of William Bradford
- ✿ Hogan Liam Spratt, son of William R. Spratt, descendant of John Alden
- ✿ Charlotte Anne Simonson, great-niece of Sumner Gary Hunnewell, descendant of William & Mary Brewster, John, Ellinor & Francis Billington, and Richard Warren

*Many thanks to
our Historian,
Damon Hayward,
and his mother,
Karen, for this
bumper crop of
members and
supplementals.*

Many Thanks to Our Donors!

Eloise Andrews ☼ *Stephen Ballwin* ☼ *Lovis Brodbeck* ☼ *Francis Cottle* ☼ *Tracy Crocker*
Barbara Cummings ☼ *Bryan Edwards* ☼ *Fred Evermon* ☼ *Susan Gilbert* ☼
Carol Gisselquist in memory of her mother, Doris Marshall ☼ *Sylvia Grote* ☼ *Millicent Henry* ☼
Ann Houx ☼ *Geraldine Hubbs* ☼ *Rebecca Huber* ☼ *Sumner Hunnewell* ☼ *Daniel Jones* ☼
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Joan Sturm ☼ *Doris Weisenbarger* ☼ *Thomas Woodbury*

Spring Luncheons: 2021 and 2022

At the January 16 meeting of the Board of Assistants, the Board voted to not have a Spring Luncheon this April. We plan to have an on-line ceremony to announce our scholarship winners and have them read their papers.

In honor of our Peace Treaty between the Wampanoag and the *Mayflower* pilgrims, we will be holding a luncheon and celebration in April 2022.

We will be holding this event in Kansas City on the Country Club Plaza. The venue will be at the Grand Street Café. Following our luncheon, our entourage will walk to the bronze statue of Massasoit for a 400-year recognition of the Peace Treaty.

Our 2022 Spring Luncheon will feature our Scholarship Winners and a guest speaker. Governor General, Jane Hurt, has also promised to be in attendance.

Necrology

- ☼ James D. Shoemaker, Past State Governor, Alton, Illinois, 17 July 2020
- ☼ Helen L. (née Darst) Jeffrey, Ozark, 27 August 2020
- ☼ Jacqueline (née Fish) Byrd, Paducah, Kentucky, 22 October 2020

Lost member:

Jerome W. Compton

Please write if you
know where he is.

Gov. Michael L. Parson's Mayflower Day Proclamation



Letter from the British Consul, the Hon. Mark Sutherland

**From the Hon. Consul
Mark Sutherland**

21 November 2020



British Hon. Consulate - Missouri

On behalf of Her Majesty's Government to the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Missouri.

In the 400 years since 1620, the US and the UK have achieved more together than any two countries in history. This special relationship is more special today than it has ever been. Our shared progress is as important and impactful as our shared history. The increasing trade, our employment of each other's citizens and our joint leadership in many areas are a testament to our shared values and commitments to the world. And 2020 represents an unprecedented opportunity to take that relationship to a new level.

The Mayflower represents the relationship between the US and the UK, and this momentous sailing is how our shared national story began, and still shapes everything we do together today. The Mayflower Compact informed the US Constitution and the Pilgrims inspired our shared commitment to freedom of thoughts, religion and expression. And the bonds that started with the Mayflower proved so strong that even a revolution could not keep our countries apart.

Four hundred years after this historic event, our countries are closer than ever. Our trade links, our military collaboration, our intelligence sharing, our strong cultural and business ties, and our global leadership across many areas, all make up the bonds that bring us together and unite us. I hope that 2021 will see those bonds strengthen even more as we complete our negotiation on a free trade agreement between the UK and the US.

Thank you for your celebration of this event that changed the history of the world in ways your ancestors could not have imagined. It is an honour to be able to pass along this message on behalf of Her Majesty's Government and I thank you for all you do to keep these bonds of friendship strong today, and for generations to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mark Sutherland'.

The Honorable Mark Sutherland
Her Majesty's Hon. Consul of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Hon. Consulate of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - Missouri
524 Rooster Ridge Court, Defiance, MO 63341
314.913.0674 ~ Mark.Sutherland@fcdo.gov.uk*



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2021 Calendar

March 20, Saturday 2 p.m., Board Meeting at the Hunnewells / Zoom

April Spring Luncheon has been canceled for 2021

Colony meetings will resume once it is considered safe to do so.

Luncheon dates are subject to local government mandates.

GSMD, New England Historic Genealogical Society, and FamilySearch International have made available an outstanding GSMD members-only benefit. GSMD Members are now able to search the database of GSMD membership applications, 1620-1920. This benefit is free for GSMD members.

Log into the membership section on the [GSMD website](https://www.themayflowersociety.org/members-only/gsmc-and-nehgs) and then enter this webpage <https://www.themayflowersociety.org/members-only/gsmc-and-nehgs>

**De
Membership
perk!**