

# The Missouri Compact

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

Volume 38, Number 1

May A. D. 2024

## From the Governor's Quill

Greetings from Kansas City this spring!

First, my apologies as I have been quite under the weather for the last few months, and have not been on top of Missouri Mayflower activities the way I should have. I look forward to planning and having lots of great activities for the society in the second half of the year. Please feel free to reach out to me to discuss any ideas or suggestions you have to improve communications and your experience as a member of the Mayflower Society.

I have such great pride in my Mayflower ancestry and I wish for all of us to share that special bond together in more ways. Stay tuned for updates to the calendar, I'll have that out shortly.

My email address is [vicki.smith.1620@gmail.com](mailto:vicki.smith.1620@gmail.com). I look forward to hearing from you all.



*Governor Vicki Smith*

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## How I Came to Find My *Mayflower* Ancestor

Sylvia Jane Spencer Grote

In the 1990's as I transitioned from being a mother of high-school age teenagers and found that I had more free time for hobbies, I developed an interest in family history and genealogy. Our son and daughter attended college away but came home for holidays and vacations and each also for a short period between college and graduate school. However, after they each left for graduate school in different parts of the country, my husband and I really became empty nesters. My husband was still employed, which kept him busy, and I decided to begin genealogy research in earnest. At that time the St. Louis County Library History and Genealogy Department, with a large collection of family history and genealogy books and other materials, was housed on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the St. Louis County Library headquarters building on N. Lindbergh Blvd. We were living in Kirkwood, Missouri, at the time, and it was an easy drive up Lindbergh Blvd. for me to spend some time at the County Library doing genealogy research, which I really enjoyed.



I tended to go off in all directions, researching the lines of each of my grandparents and great-grandparents, and decided to concentrate a bit on some searching on the family of my grandfather Byron E. Spencer's mother, whom we knew as Della Spencer, maiden name Townsend. My dad, who was also named Byron, with a different middle name, had repeated various things that his grandmother had told him. Among other things, we knew that her father's name was Byron and that my grandfather was named for his maternal grandfather. She also said that she was from Pittsfield, Massachusetts, born June 16, 1865, and that her birth was recorded, because "They were more civilized in Massachusetts than in Missouri." (As births in Missouri weren't recorded until 1910.)

While looking in the library for any reference to Byron Townsend on August 18, 1998, I came across a publication called *The Townsend's Missing Links 1630 – 1850*, edited by Charles D. Townsend, 1992, which listed a birth record in Chart #15, Byron C. Townsend, wife Ella F. Crowell, child Adella Townsend born January 16, 1864, Hancock, Massachusetts. Some of the details apparently were a little different, but it was similar enough that I found it intriguing. I looked up Hancock, Massachusetts, which turned out to be a little farming community in Berkshire County, about 10 miles northwest of Pittsfield. I then wrote a letter to Charles D. Townsend, asking if it was possible that my great-grandmother had said she was from Pittsfield, although she was really born in Hancock, Massachusetts. Mr. Townsend very kindly reassured me that it was likely my great-grandmother would tell people in Missouri that she was from Pittsfield, because nobody in southeast Missouri would have heard of Hancock while most people were familiar with Pittsfield. By further research I learned that microfilm of the birth, marriage, and death records in Hancock from 1843 – 1877 could be ordered from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and read at the St. Louis County Library. This record had Adella Townsend, Female, Date of Birth June 16, 1864, Place of Birth Hancock, Parents Byron G. Townsend, Ellen F. (Crowell), Residence of parents Hancock, Occupation of Father Farmer, Place of birth of Father Hancock, Place of Birth of Mother Pawtucket. So apparently my great-grandmother had shaved a year off her age! Further library research revealed that Byron G. Townsend's parents, Noah Eli Townsend and Harriet A. Carpenter, had a monument in the Townsend Cemetery in Hancock which not only listed their names but the names of all their children, including Byron G.

The next piece of luck came in the form of an invitation from our son and his then wife whom he had met while both were attending the University of Rhode Island, to join them on a visit to western Massachusetts and

Eastern New York in August, 2000. After leaving university, they had started a colonial-era bed and breakfast in North Stonington, Connecticut, and were planning to take some classes on colonial crafts at Historic Eastfield Village near Nassau in upstate New York. Our son and daughter-in-law stayed in a building at Eastfield Village and attended classes while we tent-camped (which we loved doing— we were much younger then) at a nearby campground. We did family history research in Hancock, visited the Townsend Cemetery in Hancock, local libraries and historical societies in Hancock and Stephentown, New York, and ordered probate records from Pittsfield. We also all got together for some sightseeing in the area.

Death records from Hancock had shown that Harriet A. Carpenter was born in Stephentown, New York, in 1801, and her parents were Benjamin Carpenter and Asenath (Pardee) of Stephentown, New York. We learned that the parents of Asenath were Calvin Pardee and Rachel (Johnson) and that a house built by Calvin Pardee in the 1700's was still standing in Stephentown. Along with

our son and daughter-in-law, we drove to Stephentown to see the Calvin Pardee House. While we were looking at the house, which happened to be up for sale, the homeowners saw us and invited us inside. I explained that we were interested because our son and I were descendants of the original builder of the house, and the owner kindly informed us that "The man who built this house was a *Mayflower* descendant." This was a total surprise to us, as we weren't aware of Calvin's lineage at all! The homeowners had a copy of a Pardee Genealogy which gave the details of Calvin Pardee's descent from Pilgrim William Bradford of the *Mayflower*. After this, I was able to use the copy of the *Mayflower Society Silver Book Volume Twenty-two* in the St. Louis County Library to connect Calvin Pardee, through his mother Welthean Cook, to William Bradford.



I joined the Mayflower Society in May 2006, and am very happy to report that last year, in May 2023, for the first time two more family members also joined Mayflower through the William Bradford lineage that I found back in 2000!

## I Met One of My *Mayflower* Passengers!

**Debra Hovis, Historian**

I have been researching my ancestry since the late 1990's, after I was introduced into the wonderful world of the internet.

My eldest daughter in 2016 invited me to join her and her family on a vacation to the east coast. Of course, I enthusiastically said, "Yes."

The trip included visiting my eldest son and his family in Virginia, Washington D. C., New York City, and Boston. I asked to spend a day in Plymouth. Which is where this "miracle" occurred.

Once in Plymouth, we toured the *Mayflower II*, viewed the Plymouth Rock, The Harlow Old Fort House (William Harlow is my ancestor), the Pilgrim Sarcophagus (Mary Norris Allerton), and Coles Hill and Burial Hill.



Next came the "Plimoth Plantation!" This would prove to be magical!

We learned about the Patuxet history and then walked around Plimoth.

It was amazing to see how my *Mayflower* Passenger ancestor spent their days and lived their daily lives.

Of course there are *Mayflower* Passenger enactors outside the homes. So, we happened to be speaking with a young woman and young man outside one of the homes. They shared with us some of their daily living.

Before leaving their company, I asked their names.

Wow!!! The young woman was Mary Allerton!!! One of my *Mayflower* Passenger Ancestors!! The young man was Thomas Cushman.



My daughter (knowing this information and knowing her mother's passion for genealogy) pulled the back of my shirt. This was her way of saying to me 'hold on mom.' Too late! I blurted out "are you married yet?"

Thomas replied, "We are too young to speak of this".

Of all the homes and enactors, we just happened to stop at the right one!

## Marietta Boenker Awarded

### COMMENDATION AWARD

Those sharp-eyed readers of the Winter edition of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* would have seen that Marietta Boenker was awarded the General Society's Commendation Award.

*Commendation Awards are bestowed each year by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) at its annual meeting to members who have been nominated by their Member Society for their extensive volunteer service with significant direct benefits to GSMD or to their Member Society.*

To the Awards Committee,

I would be honored to nominate my (very distant) cousin, Marietta Boenker, to receive the GSMD Commendation Award for the State of Missouri. When I joined the Society, Marietta was the newsletter editor, the Juniors membership chairperson, and helped maintain our Society's website. She showed great enthusiasm with the newsletter and, especially, the Juniors group during that time. After new members volunteered to fill those positions, Marietta assisted our backlogged Historian by being our "front door." All requests that came through (and continue to come through) our website or word of mouth are provided a quick and concise response about "next steps." By setting expectations and being our primary contact person, it relieves our Historian from the never-ending first-contact inquiries so the Historian can put his/her efforts elsewhere in the membership process. She is worthy of this commendation.

Sumner G. Hunnewell  
Past Governor, Society of  
Mayflower Descendants  
in the State of Missouri



If you feel that a member meets the qualification for the Commendation Award, please contact a board member, so the nominee can be brought before the Board of Assistancess.

*Heart of America Governor, Terri Hardy,  
receives the award for Marietta at the Compact Luncheon*



## Governor General's Online Meeting

### Sumner G. Hunnewell, Deputy Governor General

One of the responsibilities of the Deputy Governor General is to report on meetings held by the Governor General (GG). GG Lisa Pennington held an online meeting on January 24. Here are my notes.

**Lawsuit.** GG Pennington talked about the lawsuit against the Society, which was featured in the *Wall Street Journal*. The lawsuit came from a man who was rejected by a state society. Comments favorable to the society were 10 to 1. It actually turned out to be a positive thing in the short run. A lot of people didn't know that we existed, and we received a bunch of donations as a result. [Ed. note: "Any news is good news."]

**Mayflower House.** Rotting wood sills are being replaced. The house will be used for community events (teddy bear tea [Spring], Rev. War walk & tea [October]). Every first Friday (April - November) it will be open to the public. There we will give information about joining the society (and maybe have the shop open). [Ed. note: *always* have the shop open!] Parts of it will be used to rent out for a meeting space. Board members can stay at the house (two rooms) rather than pay for their hotel rooms. [Ed. note: GS board members' travel and expenses are paid for by the General Society when they travel to Plymouth for board meetings.]

**Meeting House.** It will be open for docent tours during Spring/Summer when not under construction. The elevator is done; next is the side entrance.

**Breakfast.** April 10<sup>th</sup> breakfast in Washington, DC. Register on the website. Be there! Be THERE! BE THERE!

**GBOA.** Next meeting will be at Asheville, N. C. Those arriving early can pay for tours of the Biltmore and Southern Craft Center. Dates: September 5-8 (Thursday-Sunday). Sept 6 - education day (treasurers/historians). "How to make your meeting interesting" topic will be presented. Sept. 7 business meeting & banquet. Caleb Johnson will be the speaker. Lunch speakers on DNA & Suffolk/Norfolk/Kent Pilgrims.

**Mazuma.** The financial appeal in December created more donors for larger amounts than the GS has ever had. Giving Tuesday: the focus was to purchase film equipment. We got more than we wanted. Equipment has been purchased. There will be short films for the website & YouTube. Subjects will be: Plymouth pilgrims, Rev. War, link from the Magna Charta to the Mayflower Compact. Last week, the Jameson family in California gave a bequest of \$2M to the Mayflower Society. He thought that education (K-12) would be the focus of the bequest.

### Q&A next.

Q. How do I volunteer to be an indexer? **A.** Email Historian General.

Q. How to get the Governor General to attend your meeting? **A.** Email her.

Q. What's the deductible on the Directors and Officers Liability insurance policy? **A.** \$5000.

Q. When will the All-Name Index be published? **A.** February 15. It will be up on the website.



## Mayflower Compact Luncheon

LIDIA'S KANSAS CITY, NOVEMBER 18, KANSAS CITY



Members and guests enjoyed a new venue for our Missouri Compact Luncheon, Lidia's Kansas City. The restaurant one of three owned by Lidia Bastianich, who is a public television host and author. The restaurant specializes in Northern Italian cuisine, and we were not disappointed!

We combined the Heart of America Colony's regular fall luncheon and the Mayflower Compact Luncheon as this was the first time that the luncheon was held outside of the St. Louis area.

Governor Vicki Smith gave the program on the women of the *Mayflower*. Captain Sumner Hunnewell talked about his trip to Plymouth to attend the General Board of Assistants meeting that September. It was at this meeting that Marietta Boenker received the (well-deserved) General Society's Commendation Award (see page 5). Marietta was not able to attend, so Colony Governor Terri Hardy received the award for her.



## Colony News

### GREATER OZARKS COLONY, 27 APRIL, SPRINGFIELD

The Greater Ozarks Colony of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Missouri held its Spring meeting at the Pizza Ranch on April 27. Eight members, five prospective members, and one guest were present.

With deep sorrow, we announce the death of Life-member Robert C. Fields. Mr. Fields passed away on December 9, 2023, in Springfield.

Micki Dischinger motioned that we purchase the Silver Books Index (3 volumes) at \$200.00 to donate to The Library Center in Springfield. Linda Austin seconded the motion. John Charles will contact The Library Center to see if they already have the books.

Sandra Walker, a member of the State Education Committee, is reviewing twelve applications from students in Missouri for scholarship awards.

For our program, Evelyn Wallace gave a history of quilts, demonstrated quilting procedures, and displayed several quilts.

The meeting concluded with reading the minutes from the last meeting and the Treasurer's report. The Fall meeting of the Greater Ozark's Colony will be on October 26, 2024, at the Pizza Ranch, 2825 S. Glenstone Avenue, Springfield.

Kathryn Walker gave the closing prayer, and Governor Dee Dosch adjourned the meeting.



*Evelyn Wallace*

*Colony Governor Dee Dosch*

*Giving it a try—Kathryn Anderson with...  
John Charles*

*Scott Brown*



## Welcome New Members!

### *New members—some newly discovered cousins*

- ∅ **Bartow Simmeral Lammert Molloy**, Berger, descendant of Isaac Allerton
- ∅ **Maryln Kay Rufenacht**, Deepwater, descendant of George Soule
- ∅ **Elizabeth Anne Freestone Chipman**, Cameron, descendant of Elizabeth Tilley
- ∅ **Julie Marie Lazinger**, Columbia, descendant of Myles Standish
- ∅ **Jean Kay Lewis Chirnside**, Bonita Springs, Florida, descendant of William Bradford
- ∅ **Brenda Lee (née Evans) Gieck**, Jefferson City, descendant of Constance Hopkins
- ∅ **Robert Elliott Perry**, New Rochelle, New York, descendant of John Alden
- ∅ **Minot Packer Fryer, Jr.**, Chesterfield, descendant of Edward Fuller (OTG)
- ∅ **Kristen Michelle (née Bowles) Lewis**, Jackson, descendant of Priscilla Mullins
- ∅ **Danna Jean (née Ray) Titus**, Belton, descendant of Isaac Allerton
- ∅ **Stacey Marie Bohning**, Saint Peters, descendant of William Bradford
- ∅ **Mary Ann (née Brines) Gaston**, St. Louis, descendant of Stephen Hopkins
- ∅ **Michael Jerome Hahn**, Independence, descendant of Edward Fuller
- ∅ **Carolyn Joan (née Jensen) Ray**, Independence, descendant of Isaac Allerton
- ∅ **Linda Faye (née Brown) Austin**, Springfield, descendant of Richard Warren
- ∅ **Wade Hampton Schott III**, Rolla, descendant of John Howland
- ∅ **Craig Stone Crosswhite**, Winona, descendant of Richard Warren
- ∅ **Jean Marie (née Kiblinger) Rockafellow**, Strafford, descendant of Miles Standish
- ∅ **Guy Brewster Knapp**, St. Louis, descendant of William Brewster

### *Newly approved supplements*

- ∅ **Patricia Ann Whidden Gatz**, descendant of Priscilla Mullins, William Mullins, and Richard Warren
- ∅ **Thomas Daniel Thomas**, descendant of Giles Hopkins
- ∅ **Julie Cara Vazquez**, descendant of Francis Cooke and Richard Warren
- ∅ **Kimberli Adkins Ewing**, descendant of Constance Hopkins
- ∅ **Deborah Maniaci**, descendant of Mary Brewseter
- ∅ **Anne Elizabeth (née Bush) Cope**, descendant of Thomas Rogers
- ∅ **Julia Jackson**, descendant of Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins, Mary Norris Allerton, and Mary Allerton
- ∅ **Royce deRohan Barondes**, descendant of John Alden and Richard Warren
- ∅ **Mary Genevieve (née Hyland) Ittner**, descendant of Richard Warren
- ∅ **John Scott Ferguson**, descendant of John Howland, Elizabeth Tilley, John Tilley, and Joan (Hurst) Tilley

### *New Junior Member*

- ∅ **Aubrey Rose Carlgren**, granddaughter of Marianne Dee Dosch, descendant of Stephen Hopkins
- ∅ **Hailey Beisser**, granddaughter of Jo Lynn Doty Arnold (Colorado Society), descendant of Edward Doty.
- ∅ **Riley Beisser**, granddaughter of Jo Lynn Doty Arnold (Colorado Society), descendant of Edward Doty.
- ∅ **Lucy Austin**, granddaughter of Linda Austin, descendant of Stephen Hopkins.
- ∅ **Vivienne Austin**, granddaughter of Linda Austin, descendant of Stephen Hopkins.

## Missouri Mayflower Juniors Society Membership

### Benefits of sponsoring your child or grandchild in the juniors program:

- ◆ One-time fee of \$25.
- ◆ No lineage proofs needed.
- ◆ A certificate showing membership and descent from a passenger of the *Mayflower*.
- ◆ A birthday postcard mailed every year, reminding your junior of his/her *Mayflower* ancestors.
- ◆ Two age-appropriate mailings a year, spring and fall, containing articles, projects, and activities designed to educate and create an appreciation for our *Mayflower* pilgrims!

Applications may be found at the Missouri Mayflower website at [momayflower.org/juniors/](http://momayflower.org/juniors/).

## Thanks to Our Donors!

Our state society appreciates the generosity of its members. Through the years, we have supported college-bound high school seniors with scholarships. Also, as new "Silver Books" are published, we provide copies to three state libraries. Your donations help to accomplish these efforts.

*Since last October \$310 was donated.* Thank you!

**Donna Barnes ☙ Chris Flanigan ☙ Mary Beth Garasky ☙ Beverly Karim**

**Dorothy Lawrence ☙ Pence Rogers**

**Wade Schott ☙ Christy Scott ☙ Thomas Woodbury**

*Check page 11 for our fundraising offers.*



# Missouri Society Scholarship Fundraiser

Our Society has a yearly essay contest and bestows three scholarships to high school seniors.

As a premium for those who donate, we have art prints & 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary lapel pins and medals.

Premium for a \$10 donation is a 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary lapel pin (1" wide).

*Only a few are left!*



Premium for a \$75 donation is a 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary 3-D two-piece medal, joined by English (St. George) flag ribbon.



Premium for a donation of over \$250 is an 11" x 14" Cape Cod 1620 print by Cedric Hustace.

I am donating \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Scholarship Fund.

Please send premiums of

\_\_\_\_ Pin(s)

\_\_\_\_ Medal(s)

\_\_\_\_ 11" x 14" Cape Cod 1620 print(s) (only two remain)

Please do not send me any premiums.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_



Please make checks out to the "Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Missouri" and (along with this form) mail to Missouri State Treasurer Dustin Peetz, 1517 Gold Leaf Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146-4810.

*The Missouri Compact*

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## 2024 Calendar

**June 8**, Saturday, 11 a. m., Heart of America Colony, John Knox Village, Lee's Summit

**September 5-8**, General Board of Assistants Meeting, Asheville, North Carolina

**October 26**, Saturday, Greater Ozark Colony, Pizza Ranch, 2825 S. Glenstone Ave., Springfield.

**We are always interested in articles about how you found your *Mayflower* ancestor  
or the latest Plymouth Colony book that you'd like to review.**

**Send them in!**

**Interested in holding an office in your colony or the state organization?**

**Contact your officers and let them know!**