

The Missouri Compact

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

Volume 39, Number 3

December A.D. 2025

From the Governor's Quill

Greetings! November marks the passage of one year in my term as Governor of the Missouri Mayflower Society. It thus seems timely to reflect on the society's activities over the last year, and on matters under consideration for the upcoming year. Please allow me to provide a summary. More detail is available in the written report that I presented at the annual business meeting last month. If you would like to review that report, please send me a note at: governor@momayflower.org.



*Governor Royce
Barondes*

Education Co-Chairs

The purposes of the Missouri Mayflower Society include the perpetuation of the memory of our shared ancestors. Educational programming and support are, thus, core to the Missouri Society's mission. Over the last year, we have, of course, continued our scholarship competition, where applicants address topics concerning the Mayflower and the Mayflower Passengers. And we have educational programming at meetings. A third component, providing some educational programming to schools, was suspended during the pandemic and has been dormant. I am pleased to report that we have recently had two members, Cindy Blaylock and Nancy Kidnocker, volunteer to join our Board of Assistants as Co-Chairs of Education, to reactivate that component of our educational mission. We should all thank our Nominating Committee, Ann McReynolds and Debra Hovis, for their efforts in identifying candidates, in addition to their roles as Recording Secretary and Historian, respectively. (continued on page 5)

Inside This Issue

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 From the Governor's Quill | 10 U.S. Mint Announces Mayflower Quarter |
| 2 Mayflower Compact Luncheon | 11 D.C. Society America 250 Event |
| 6 Donor Recognition | 12 New Members / Supplementals / Juniors |
| 7 2025 Annual Business Meeting | 13 2024-2026 BOA, Committees / Necrology |
| 9 Society News | 14 Calendar |
| 10 Heart of America Colony's Movie Night | |

Members Gather in Town and Country for Mayflower Compact Luncheon

On November 22, 2025, society members and guests gathered in the Grand Ballroom of the Marriott-St. Louis West Hotel in Town and Country to celebrate the signing of the Mayflower Compact. Governor Royce Barondes called the meeting to order and Elder Fred Evermon gave the invocation. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and discussing Junior Membership applications, the meeting recessed for lunch.

After lunch, Recording Secretary Ann McReynolds introduced speaker Brent Trout, manager of the History and Genealogy Department at St. Louis County Library. All in attendance were enthralled as he gave a presentation on the use of AI in genealogy. Booklets summarizing the presentation were given to attendees so they could follow along and take notes.

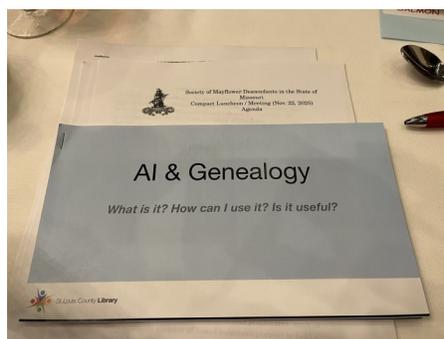
Once the program was concluded, Elder Evermon performed a swearing in ceremony for Nancy Kidnocker. She joins the Board of Assistants as Education Co-chair. Next, Governor Barondes presided over approval of amendments to the bylaws. The meeting concluded with a reading of the Mayflower Compact and roll call of the Mayflower Passenger Ancestors, with several standing multiple times as the names of their ancestors were called. Members enjoyed meeting and visiting with new cousins during the luncheon.



Recording Secretary Ann McReynolds introduces speaker Brent Trout.



Speaker Brent Trout explains practical uses of AI in Genealogy.



Mayflower Compact Luncheon (Continued from page 3)



Elder Fred Evermon swears in Nancy Kidnocker.



Nancy joins the Board of Assistants as Education Co-Chair.



Governor Royce Barondes reads the Mayflower Compact.

Mayflower Compact Luncheon (Continued from page 4)



Elder Fred Evermon holds the Mayflower Descendant banner he proudly displays at his home.



Mary Rowland and Stacey Bohning are descendants of William Bradford.



Captain Sumner Hunnewell and Sylvia Hunnewell dressed in Mayflower Pilgrim clothing for the luncheon.

From the Governor's Quill (continued from page 1)

Communications

Reports from members, and the results of a membership survey that about half the membership kindly completed, indicated that a significant portion of our membership was not consistently receiving our communications. The causes included:

- use of an individual email account not well-suited to delivering messages to large groups of persons; and
- insufficient procedures to identify non-working or abandoned email addresses.

In addition, some investigation revealed that all the members who had elected to receive communications in paper form had not been receiving them in recent times before I became Governor.

Technology

A Technology Committee (Stacey Bohning, Joan McCready and Cara Vazquez) was formed, and we transitioned our electronic communications to an email/customer relations platform, Mailchimp, which accommodates bulk communications. We also moved the other membership database information (physical addresses, passenger ancestors, years of admission, etc., for active as well as inactive and deceased members) to Mailchimp. Moving this information to cloud storage makes it more easily maintained and accessible.

Member Database & Membership Administration

Over time, errors in the database of membership information had accumulated. As part of addressing that, a new Chair of Membership Administration was established, which we are fortunate Terri Hardy agreed to take on. So, with the substantial work of our Historian, Debra Hovis, Terri and myself, we made numerous corrections to the database and incorporated the information into the new platform.

Use of this platform has made it more practicable to tailor our communications. For example, in recent years, we had relied on sending generic dues reminders to the entire membership. We are now sending follow-up dues notices targeted only to members who have not paid for next year.

This customer relations platform can accommodate additional features that I am hopeful the Technology Committee will be able to implement over the next year. That includes creation of an online membership directory containing contact information of consenting members, so that members can stay in touch with each other. It may also integrate with some of the society's accounting records.

(continued on page 6)

From the Governor's Quill (continued from page 5)

Revision to Bylaws

The bylaws the Missouri Society adopted in 2021, in connection with the incorporation of the Missouri Society as a nonprofit corporation, had a number of issues. Unfortunately, they were not revised at that time to conform to certain requirements to which the Missouri Society became subject, such as minimum quorum requirements. In addition, the bylaws contained administrative procedures that the Society had not followed. Revisions were prepared and approved by the Missouri Society's Board of Assistants (its board of directors) and the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. The revisions were completed on approval by the members at the Compact Luncheon.

I have recounted above some of the most significant developments. There have been other, more mundane developments, such as expanding our insurance coverage, as recommended by the General Society. And quite a bit of work has been done by officers for our ordinary, ongoing operations. To mention some of the most salient activities, in addition to those mentioned above: Debra Hovis has done extraordinary work as Historian, in assisting prospective members with applications, and undertaken crucial additional work in correcting membership records. Christy Scott has overseen a very active program for Juniors. We are fortunate to benefit from the expertise of Dustin Peetz in skillfully handling the Treasurer's duties. The information technology demands on the society are ever increasing, and Joan McCready continues to provide crucial assistance in her role as Webmaster. Dale Crandell and Sandra Walker effectively administered our scholarship competition. Julia Jackson coordinates our communications with the General Society as to membership and certain other matters. I have had the opportunity to benefit from the guidance of our Captain and Past-Governor Sumner Hunnewell. And, of course, you are now reading the polished product of our Newsletter Co-Editors, Stacey Bohning and Cara Vazquez, which they took on over the last year.

The Missouri Mayflower Society has been very fortunate to benefit over the last year from these officers' and others' generous contributions of their time and effort.

Warmest Regards,

Royce Barondes, Governor

Many Thanks to Our Donors!

☼Elizabeth Crosswhite ☼Kristi Ellis ☼Pence Rogers ☼Dale Crandell ☼Steven Perkins

☼Jeff Pechauer ☼Jeffrey Thornton ☼Carol Williams ☼Suzanne Weaver

☼Wreaths Across America

2025 Annual Business Meeting

This year's Annual Business Meeting was held at The Club at Old Hawthorne in Columbia on October 4.



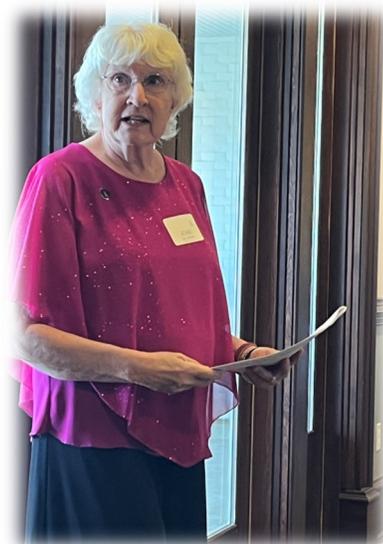
Governor Royce Barondes welcomes members to the annual meeting.



Elder Fred Evermon gives the blessing before members enjoy lunch.



Historian Debra Hovis shares her report.



Webmaster Joan McCreedy updates members on what's new with the website

2025 Annual Business Meeting (continued from page 7)



Dale Crandell, Scholarship Committee Co-Chair, shares his report



Sandra Walker, Scholarship Committee Co-Chair, shares her report



Heart of America Colony Governor Jana Sattler shares colony news



Webmaster Joan McCready and Compact Co-Editors Stacey Bohning and Cara Vazquez

Society News

William Brewster Featured at Greater Ozarks Colony's Fall Meeting



Nancy Kidnocker

The Greater Ozarks Colony of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Missouri held its Fall meeting at the Pizza Ranch on October 25, 2025. Six members, two prospective members, and five guests attended.

During the business portion of the meeting, Colony Governor Dee Dosch and Deputy Colony Governor Sandra Walker gave a summary of the Missouri Mayflower Society's Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon, which they attended on October 4, 2025, at the Club at Old Hawthorne in Columbia. The colony also approved a motion to purchase books to be donated to libraries in the surrounding counties.

New member Nancy Kidnocker gave an excellent talk about her ancestor, William Brewster. Nancy brought Indian corn, pumpkins, and gourds donated by Nick Hale of Hale's Harvest in Republic, Missouri. Nancy also brought items from her private tableware collection and an antique book in German. There were enough small pumpkins for everyone to take one home if they desired.



Save the date!

March 28, 2026, Spring meeting of the Greater Ozarks Colony, Pizza Ranch, 2825 S. Glenstone Avenue, 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 Missouri Society?

Contact your officers and let them know!

(contact information at www.momayflower.org)

Society News (continued from page 9)

Heart of America Colony Hosts Fall Meeting Movie Night

The fall Heart of America Colony meeting was held on October 25 at 10:30 am at B & B Theaters in Lee's Summit. Ten members and six guests attended. Governor Jana Sattler asked for ideas on future colony meeting venues. She also asked members to send her ideas on how to celebrate America's 250th birthday next year. Following the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting, colonists enjoyed a private showing of the History Channel's "Desperate Crossing: The Untold Story of the Mayflower and its Pilgrims." Brunch finger foods and coffee by the Kolache Factory was served. The Theater concession stand was also open for movie snack purchases.

U.S. Mint Announces Mayflower Compact Circulating Quarter for 2026

The Mayflower Compact quarter is one of five new quarters that will begin circulating in 2026 in celebration of the country's 250th birthday.

The obverse design features two Pilgrims embracing as they behold the New World. The Pilgrims did not arrive at their intended destination; therefore, they did not hold a charter to establish a colony at Plymouth. Instead, the Mayflower Compact, signed November 21, 1620, established the colony as a mutual enterprise, and its force of law depended on the consent of the colonists themselves to promote the common good. The Mayflower Compact is considered a precursor to the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. The inscriptions are "E PLURIBUS UNUM," "1776 ~ 2026," and "IN GOD WE TRUST."



The reverse design features the Mayflower, with full sails over rough seas, heading west. The Pilgrims aboard sought religious freedom in the New World, eventually landing at Cape Cod and settling in what later became Plymouth, Massachusetts. The inscriptions are "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA," "LIBERTY," "MAYFLOWER COMPACT," and "25¢."



2024-2026 Board of Assistants that attended the 2024 Mayflower Compact Luncheon

District of Columbia and Maryland Mayflower Societies Host America 250 Event

I had the privilege of representing the Missouri Mayflower Society and the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence at an America 250 event in September celebrating the 405th Anniversary of the Mayflower Compact and the bold path to the Declaration of Independence. The District of Columbia and Maryland Mayflower Societies sponsored the event. It brought together members of several lineage societies at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington D.C. on September 14 to celebrate the ideas, courage and determination that gave rise to a nation.

The event began with a reception and cocktails followed by dinner and a program where speakers from attending lineage societies took turns, each covering two or three decades, giving the history of how the signing of the Mayflower Compact in 1620 gave rise to the signing of the Declaration of Independence 156 years later.

“No one can fully understand the significance of the Revolution without understanding the miracle of Plymouth that established self-governance,” said David Trebing, Master of Ceremony during the event. Mr. Trebing serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, American Ancestors (NEHGS); and Trustee, Plimoth Patuxet Museums.

Other speakers included Lisa Pennington, Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants; Clifton E. Rodgers, Governor of the Society of Colonial Wars in the District of Columbia; Eleanore Boyse, President, District of Columbia of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America; Donald Lamson, Esq., Attorney General of The Order of Founders and Patriots of America; Martina Caputy, President, National Society Daughters of the Founders and Patriots; Jeffery Thomas, Historian General of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution; and Dr. Patti MaClay, Vice Regent Maryland, American Friends of Lafayette, Board Member.

Attendees enjoyed a Thanksgiving dinner of fresh Mayflower breads and butter, corn soup starter, oven roasted turkey breast, homemade gravy, mashed sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, fall vegetables, and pumpkin pie with fresh whipped topping.

The evening before the event, I was invited to join the GSMD Governor General, her husband, and a few DC Mayflower members for dinner at Edgar's restaurant at the Mayflower Hotel. I never imagined that I would ever get the chance to have dinner with the GSMD Governor General! Everyone was welcoming and cordial and an enjoyable dinner and conversation was had by all! It was definitely a worthwhile weekend in the nation's capitol!
-Stacey Bohning, Compact Co-Editor



Stacey Bohning poses with the Mayflower Hotel's model ship of the same name.

Welcome New Members!

New members—some newly discovered cousins

- ☼ **Caroline Carter**, Dover, New Hampshire, descendant of John Alden
- ☼ **Anne Seekins**, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, descendant of William Brewster
- ☼ **Hannah Seekins**, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, descendant of Priscilla Mullins
- ☼ **Cinta Brown**, Ava, descendant of John Alden
- ☼ **Bridget Schwent**, O'Fallon, descendant of William Brewster
- ☼ **April Schweizer**, Savannah, descendant of William Bradford
- ☼ **John Jehle**, Nixa, descendant of George Soule
- ☼ **Alden Eggert**, Clayton, descendant of John Alden

Newly approved supplementals

- ☼ **Elizabeth “Beth” Willis**, descendant of John Howland, John Tilley, Elizabeth Tilley, and Joan (Hurst) Tilley

Many thanks to our Historian, Debra Hovis!

Missouri Mayflower Society Celebrates Centennial in 2028

Did you know that the Missouri Mayflower Society was founded in 1928? That means our Society will celebrate its centennial in 2028. If you're unfamiliar with the history of our Society, please visit the history page on our website at <https://momayflower.org/our-history>.

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

Necrology

☼ **Norinne Accurso**, August 17, 2025, Leawood, Kansas. You can read Mrs. Accurso's obituary at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/kansas-city-mo/norine-accurso-12491356>

Your 2024-2026 State Officers and Committees

Governor — Royce Barondes
Deputy Governor — Jeff Pechauer
Recording Secretary — Ann McReynolds
Corresponding Secretary — Julia Jackson
Treasurer — Dustin Peetz
Historian — Debra Hovis
Elder — Fred Evermon
Captain — Sumner Hunnewell
Surgeon — Scott Harris
Counselor — Allen Garner
Deputy Gov. Gen. (DGG) — Sumner Hunnewell
Assistant Governor (AG) — Vicki Smith

Colony Governors:

Heart of America — Jana Sattler
Greater Ozarks — Dee Dosch

Committees:

Communications — Donna Barnes
Education — Nancy Kidnocker, Cynthia Blaylock
Juniors — Christy Scott
Newsletter — Stacey Bohning, Cara Vazquez
Scholarship — Sandra Walker, Dale Crandell
Website — Joan McCready
Silent Auction — Leslie Richards, Vicki Smith, Cara Vazquez
Technology — Stacey Bohning, Joan McCready, Cara Vazquez
Bylaws — Ann McReynolds, Royce Barondes, Allen Garner
Membership Experience — Jana Sattler, Royce Barondes
Membership Administration — Terri Hardy



The
Mayflower
Society®



View from The Club at Old Hawthorne

The Missouri Compact
Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of
Missouri

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The Missouri Compact Editors
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Cara Vazquez: Newsletter2@momayflower.org
Website: momayflower.org

Calendar for 2026 and Beyond

March 1, 2026, Scholarship Deadline, Scholarships are open to Missouri high school seniors.

March 28, 2026, Spring meeting of the Greater Ozarks Colony, Pizza Ranch, 2825 S. Glenstone Avenue, Springfield

Congress and General Society Board of Assistants Meetings

2026 Triennial Congress Plymouth, September 11-15; 2027 GBOA Atlanta, September 9-12;
2028 GBOA California, September 7-10; 2029 Triennial Congress Plymouth, September 7-11;
2030 GBOA Virginia, September 5-8