



Columbus Colony

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the state of Ohio

Chartered 01 October 1929
Columbus Colony Officers
April 2020 – April 2023

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This is my first newsletter as your Lt. Governor and it is intended to provide some information about our state society and our colony. It will be posted under Columbus Colony on the state website: www.ohiomayflower.org. On that website, you will also find the state newsletter, The Buckeye Mayflower, along with other colony newsletters. I encourage you to check our Ohio website, in addition to the national website: www.TheMayflowerSociety.org. When you visit the national society website, you can visit the online store in addition to what's happening within the society. You can subscribe to the *Pilgrim Press*, a free newsletter to arrive in your e-mail.

Ballots were e-mailed to members to vote for the 2020-2023 officers. Hilda would like to thank the officers who were elected, in addition to those committee chair listed below who continue to serve from the previous administration:
Scholarship Chair: Dr. Jan Ebert
Membership Chair: Judy Snyder
Social Committee Chair: Carolyn White

Our Columbus Colony appreciates the members from the Marietta colony (disbanded in 2013); many who elected to join our colony 01 June 2013. We have several members who live in Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. One member lives in Switzerland and one member lives in Italy. Our total colony membership is 277 members, 20 of whom are Life Members. Thanks to parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts and uncles, we have 221 junior members. Our membership changes within each year, based on new approved members at any given time.

“Our fathers were Englishmen, which came over this great ocean, and were ready to parish in this wilderness.”

William Bradford

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants was established 12 January 1897. Ohio signed a request for a Charter 22 March 1898. The Articles of Incorporation of Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio was 20 June 1901 in Cincinnati, Hamilton, Ohio. Our Columbus Colony was organized 01 October 1929. This year our Ohio society has 923 members. There are 5 colonies in the state of Ohio: Cleveland, Western Reserve, Toledo, Columbus, and Cincinnati.

We thank **Sharon Hendershot** who served as our Lt Governor from 2017-2020. She has been a Mayflower member since 29 October 2013. Her pilgrim ancestor is William Brewster. Sharon is also active in several other organizations, Ann Simpson Davis Chapter DAR, Susannah Fuller White chapter of National Society Colonial Dames of the 17th Century and Continental Society Daughters of Indian Wars. She enjoys reading and looks forward to this summer and reading on the back porch.

We thank **Sandy St. Martin** (Columbus Colony) who faithfully served as our state governor from 2014-2020. Sandy also served as Columbus Colony Lt. Governor from 2007-2014. She has been a Mayflower member since 04 Jul 2006. Her pilgrim ancestor is George Soule. She is a Life member NSDAR, Life member Soule Kindred, and Life member Women Descendants of Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company.

We welcome our newly elected Ohio Society Governor, **Jill Parker** (Western Reserve Colony). She served as Western Reserve Lt. Governor from 2013-2019. She has been a Mayflower member since 02 Mar 2011. Her pilgrim ancestors are John Howland, Elizabeth Tilley, John Tilley, Joan Tilley, and Richard Warren. She is a member of the Pilgrim John Howland Society and The Warren Cousins. She is looking forward to visiting each of the colonies, when we are allowed.



Welcome New Members

Jeffrey Myers..... 2-29-2020
Joseph Sanders.....3-7-2020
Gary Keyser.....3-10-2020
Connie Murphy.....4-21-2020

Welcome New Junior Members

Dream Lynn Harris, great granddaughter of Hilda Pappas
Marissa Aurora DiLello, granddaughter of Suzanne Ress
Breanna Lee Simpkins, granddaughter of Carol Miracle
Lauren A Simpkins, granddaughter of Carol Miracle
Chloe Elizabeth Miracle, granddaughter of Carol Miracle
Katie Forte, Granddaughter of Sheryl Forte
Calib Forte, grandson of Sheryl Forte
Gretchen Forte, granddaughter of Sheryl Forte
Jacob Forte, grandson of Sheryl Forte
Elijah Forte, grandson of Sheryl Forte

Each colony exists because **YOU**, the members, continue to pay your annual dues, volunteer to accept leadership roles, and support the colony by your attendance at meetings. We have 2 annual meetings, a spring meeting and our November Compact Day meeting. At each meeting we always want to welcome our cousins, guests, our state officers, and other visiting colony officers or other colony members.

Your annual dues of \$36.00 are distributed as follows: \$15.00 remains at the national level, \$13.00 returns to the state level, and \$8.00 is returned to the colony. This \$8.00 that is distributed to our colony for each paying member is our operating budget for the year. National distributes the same amount of dollars to the state and colony from the members who are an L 2. Only the national dues are distributed from the original L 1 members. The state and colonies receive no dues from those original L 1 members.

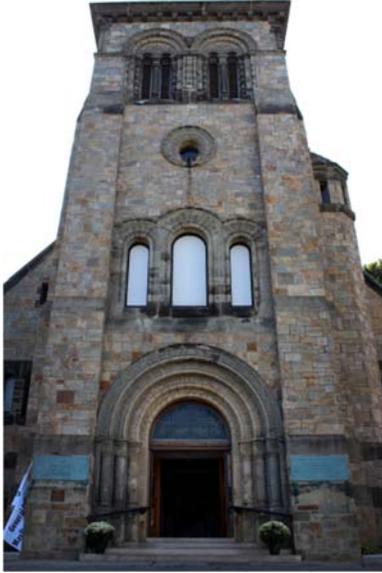
The **Life Membership Dues Program** was created to provide a vehicle for eligible members to make a one-time payment of all dues. Such programs are intended to provide assurance to retirees that despite potential decreases in personal income, their participation in SMDOH may continue. Actuarial analysis revealed that the present program was unsustainable, and new life memberships have not been offered since 2009. Members who are no longer personally in charge of their finances are subject to being dropped from the rolls. The principal threat is to those individuals whose income is entirely applied to long-term care. In May 2018, the Ohio Board of Assistants (BOA) researched and members voted on a change in By-Laws to begin again a new Life Membership program (noted as L 2 in the directory). This is on a sliding fee schedule, for members in good standing and based on your age; for those age 60 and over. For more information, refer to page 4 of the March 2020 Buckeye Mayflower; our state newsletter.

Ohio has an annual **State Assembly**. Locations are usually rotated between the 5 colonies. Generally an informal reception is held on Friday evening. Presentations and the annual Business Meeting begin Saturday morning and continue after lunch. Annual reports from each colony and your state officers are either presented or distributed to attendees. There is a memorial service for each member who has passed from the previous year. Speakers present interesting programs and good food is enjoyed by all. The colonies have tables displaying items for sale or information about their colony. Representatives from other lineage societies may have tables that have information about their society. This is an event that we would like to see more members attend as it is always a wonderful time to connect with your “cousins” across the state.

As you know, our May 1-2, 2020 celebration of the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus. The committee will be diligently working to schedule another event. They are considering an event in the fall of 2021 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving in America. It will be held in Columbus.

The 42nd Triennial Congress to be held in Plymouth, Massachusetts in September 2020 to celebrate the 400th anniversary was also cancelled due to the Coronavirus.

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy.”
Martin Luther King, Jr



From the General Society of Mayflower Descendants website:

“The General Society of Mayflower Descendants and First Parish Church signed a Joint Venture Agreement, which led to the Charitable Trust, during Congress 2017.

Along with the Meetinghouse, GSMD will be given all the church records from modern times back to 1620, written by William Bradford, William Brewster, Robert Cushman, and many others. There are references and stories of our Mayflower ancestors going back to Leiden, information that simply must be curated and properly maintained permanently. There is no group better to do this than the actual descendants of the *Mayflower* Pilgrims!

Our decision to restore the building and create a fund to support this beautiful structure and its records will be one of the most important legacies of The Mayflower Society. The First Parish Church and GSMD have created a Charitable Trust that will place the deed to the Meetinghouse into the trust. Upon raising \$3,000,000, First Parish

church will resign from the trust leaving the deed to our society, making GSMD the new owner responsible for restoring and preserving this memorial to our ancestors. We have been given until September of 2020 to raise \$3,000,000 but our responsibility to finance and care for the Meetinghouse will continue. The congregation chose our society because they knew we would show the same love and reverence they feel toward this spiritual place. They know we will not let the *Mayflower* Pilgrim story be forgotten. As our center of education, GSMD will bring the world to the Meetinghouse, the very place where the *Mayflower* Pilgrims built their life on this continent.”

The General Society had asked that each state society contribute toward the Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse Restoration Fund. Ohio BOA (Board of Assistants) pledged \$5,000.00 toward this project. Many Ohio society members contributed to this project, but we were \$1,271.00 short of our pledge. Therefore, it was suggested that each colony contribute based on the number of members x \$1.38 per member. In February 2020, our colony had 277 members and our officers voted to contribute \$382.00 to meet the state pledge.

Compact Day Meeting

Please note that the date and place may be changed due to restrictions which may still be in place on the date listed below. We need to be sensitive to the fact that there are older people residing in this facility. We will have more information for place closer to the date.

Date: November 18, 2020

Where: Kensington Place, 1001 Parkview Blvd. Columbus, OH

Time: 11:30 Social... 12:00 Dinner