



# Buckeye Mayflower

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio

[www.ohiomayflower.org](http://www.ohiomayflower.org)

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Society of Mayflower Descendants  
in the state of  
Ohio

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## A message from our Governor

Greetings Cousins!

We are blessed to share our ancestors' DNA dominated by **RESOURCEFULNESS AND FORTITUDE**. These two characteristics come to mind when I think about their lives in England and Holland, their journey to Plymouth and their struggles that first winter. These are also two characteristics that come to mind when I think of what we have endured the first half of this year and how covid-19 has impacted on our lives.



**MEMBERS – HOW ARE YOU DOING?** First, and foremost, I hope you and your families are well. A special thanks to all those on the front lines of this covid-19 response including our own BOA Recording Secretary **Pat Hall**. To all health care workers, caregivers, first responders, ready responders, mask makers, food deliverers, truck drivers, USPS/UPS/Fedex workers, and farmers thank you. To those deemed essential thank you. To those deemed un-essential, you are NOT un-essential. You are very essential and thank you for the sacrifices you have had to make. To each of you, I'd love to hear from you about any special stories you would be willing to share with our members.

**ZOOMING AHEAD:** Your Board met via Zoom on May 2 (see Board Update). Outgoing Governor **Sandy St. Martin** was thanked and recognized for her six years as Ohio Governor with an engraved Brick to be placed in the Garden Walkway at the Society House in Plymouth; additionally she was "shown" a wrapped keepsake gift that will be presented to her when next we meet. Thanks, Sandy, for your devoted leadership. Sandy will continue to serve on the Board, along with Dr. Don Nichols, as AG/Past Governor(s). Our thanks also go out to outgoing Deputy Governor **Betsie Goad** for her service to the Board.

**How about a Plan B?** Not only was our State 400<sup>th</sup> Commemoration put on hold, but the General Society 400<sup>th</sup> events have mostly been put on hold also. **So where do we go from here?** Having FORTITUDE and being RESOURCEFUL, Ohio's 400<sup>th</sup> Committee will design a PLAN B for sometime in 2021 and look to combine commemorations for both the 1620 Mayflower Journey and the 1621 "First Thanksgiving". Future Buckeye Newsletters will contain the details for the rescheduled events. Special thanks to the incredible work of the

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## HISTORIAN'S CORNER

The Covid-19 virus has changed all our lives in many ways, including how applications for membership in our Society are being processed. Per order of the MA Governor, the GSMD offices were closed in March. Director of Research Marti Bobertz has marshalled the staff to work in new ways to keep the approval process moving. The verifier staff has been working from home. The last I heard, they have verified over 500 applications since the lockdown began! One thing that had to be put on hold was the scanning of completed applications to send out to us and the other member societies. The lockdown of the offices has been at least partially lifted as of 5/26/2020 so a few members of the staff have returned to the offices. For those of you new members who are waiting for certificates, the scans of approved papers should start flowing soon.

With the cancellation of the 2020 Congress, the General Board of Assistants will be having a special online meeting on June 20 to vote on the new slate of officers (see the last Mayflower Quarterly for details) and to consider 5 Bylaws amendments that normally would have been debated at Congress. The first amendment is long overdue in my opinion, removing the requirement for preliminary applications and signatures on all applications. This will allow for gift applications and an eventual move to electronic applications. All our forms will be modified soon. Details will be in the September newsletter and at [www.ohiomayflower.org](http://www.ohiomayflower.org).

When she took office in 2017, Executive Director Susan Belekowitz determined that the Society has been losing over \$50 on every application they process. As a result, the second amendment will be to raise the verification fee by that \$50 effective January 2021. If you have been waiting to submit a supplemental or an application for a family member, now is the time to do it!

The third amendment will affect all of us. The General Society has only raised the national dues \$9 in the last 30+ years. As a result, they are having to pull funds from the endowment and fundraising efforts to even keep the lights on. The proposal is to raise the amount Ohio pays for each annual member, with a phased increase for life members. If this amendment passes, Ohio will have to pass that increase on to you, our members. We will begin sending out dues notices in late August and will at that time give you all the details of the new dues. For you life members, we cannot pass the increase on to you, but if you feel inspired to make a donation to the life membership fund when you receive your annual contact update letter, we would certainly appreciate that!

The last two amendments give the General Board of Assistants authority to make future fee changes without having to wait three years for Congress. This will allow the Society to be much more agile as it looks at opportunities to improve processes and to take advantage of new technology for enhanced member services.

*Ann Galbraisen, Western Reserve Colony*

### Membership Celebration in the COVID-19 Lockdown

After 97 years of family life and experiencing journey's through our nations history of the Great Depression, WWII, Korean War, and countless other events, the last thing Kathryn (Kay) Matson expected was to learn that her 8<sup>th</sup> great grandfather (John Howland) arrived in this country aboard the Mayflower in 1620. Thanks to exhaustive efforts by her granddaughter Amy Walts (Buffalo NY Colony), the last pieces of Kay's genealogy puzzle were discovered, documented and approved, leading to her recent induction ceremony into the Cincinnati Colony of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.



While the COVID-19 pandemic has turned so many our lives upside down, it didn't stop the nursing staff of Chesterwood Village (West Chester, OH) from finding a way to bring this special moment virtually into Kay's assisted living apartment. Officiated by the Cincinnati Colony Lt Governor Star Vondrell, the celebration was truly unique in that Kay was joined by members of her family from Ohio, New York, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Texas and Illinois (Chicago) - All via the benefits of 'Zoom' video call technology.

Even though current pandemic restrictions made this event unique, it was noted that the Mayflower passengers were no strangers to epidemics and illnesses that took a significant toll during the first few years following their arrival. Even in the midst of our COVID-19 crisis, the Mayflower Society goal and spirit of celebrating the Mayflowers history and documenting its direct descendants, remains active and alive for us all to enjoy.

*Karl Matson, Cincinnati Colony*



## CELEBRATING MEMBERSHIP

### New Members, December 1 2019—May 31 2019

#### Cincinnati Colony

David Allan	14th from Richard Warren
Charlene Dinan	11th from Edward Fuller
David Grable	13th from Resolved White
William Grindstaff	12th from James Chilton
Dorothy Luther	10th from John Howland
Karl Matson	11th from John Howland
Kathryn Matson	10th from John Howland
Debra Morrison	12th from John Howland
Benjamin Morton	15th from William Brewster
Nathan Morton	15th from William Brewster
Samuel Morton	15th from William Brewster
Margaret Namie	11th from Stephen Hopkins
Kristin Sneider	13th from William White
Marsha Wise	11th from Samuel Fuller
Laura Reel	14th from Priscilla Mullins Alden
Keith Grindstaff	13th from James Chilton
<i>Transfer-in</i>	
Patricia Hoover	11th from Francis Cooke

#### Cleveland Colony

William Bidwell	12th from Francis Cooke
Karen Black	12th from William Bradford
Mary Bolmeyer	12th from Edward Fuller
Scott Geddis	12th from Peter Brown
Stephen Greene	13th from William Brewster
Rose McIntyre	12th from Edward Fuller
(M) Janis Scott	10th from Myles Standish
Joe Stamm	12th from Edward Fuller

Bond Brewster	14th from William Brewster
Braden Brewster	14th from William Brewster
<i>Dual Membership</i>	
Dallas Schlaufman	10th from George Soule

#### Columbus Colony

Benjamin Buehrer	13th from John Alden
Linda Chiki	12th from James Chilton
Diane Hodges	12th from Edward Fuller
Gary Keyser	13th from Stephen Hopkins
Karen Klein	15th from James Chilton
Joyce Long	10th from Edward Doty
Carol Miracle	10th from Henry Samson
Connie Murphy	12th from Richard Warren
Jeffrey Myers	14th from William Brewster
Barbara Nicol	11th from William Brewster
Joseph Sanders	15th from William Brewster
Mollie Schramm	11th from Myles Standish
Karen Townsend	11th from Edward Doty
Stewart Seely	13th from Richard Warren

#### Toledo Colony

<i>Transfer-in</i>	
Edmund Trafford	11th from Myles Standish

#### Western Reserve Colony

Nona Barath	11th from William Bradford
Deborah Hutnik	11th from William Bradford
Robert Stands	12th from Edward Fuller
Angela Yoder	11th from Stephen Hopkins
Nathaniel Yoder	12th from Stephen Hopkins

### New Junior Members

Matthew Materna	George Soule	Dream Harris	Myles Standish	Marissa DiLello	Priscilla Mullins
Stella Erlenbach	Edward Fuller	Elijah Forte	John Howland	Alden	
Vincent Pollard	John Alden	Gretchen Forte	John Howland	Cody Jones	Edward Fuller
Breanna Simpkins	Henry Samson	Jacob Forte	John Howland	Zachary Jones	Edward Fuller
Caleb Forte	John Howland	Katie Forte	John Howland		
Chloe Miracle	Henry Samson	Lauren Simpkins	Henry Samson		



### JN MEMORIAM



THE SOCIETY EXTENDS DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF EACH OF OUR PILGRIM COUSINS WHO HAVE LEFT US IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS

WR, Carol Ecklund, descendant of George Soule, born 1/2/1934, died 2/15/2020, member since 9/26/2019

TOL, Gordon Wildermuth, descendant of Richard Warren, born 11/13/1937, died 2/7/2020, member since 5/19/1979

WR, Blanche Rabbitts, descendant of William Brewster, born 9/11/1923, died 12/19/2019, member since 10/12/1985

### Supplemental applications approved

**Cincinnati Colony**

Paige Craig 12th from Isaac Allerton  
 Paige Craig 12th from Mary (Norris) Allerton  
 Paige Craig 12th from John Tilley  
 Paige Craig 12th from Joan (Hurst) Tilley  
 Paige Craig 11th from John Howland  
 Paige Craig 11th from Elizabeth Tilley Howland  
 Randall Krueger 13th from John Howland  
 Randall Krueger 12th from Edward Doty  
 Randall Krueger 14th from John Tilley  
 Stephanie Smith 14th from Mary Brewster  
 Stephanie Smith 14th from William Brewster

**Cleveland Colony**

Lawrence Hoyt 13th from Mary Brewster

Brent Durken 15th from William Brewster  
 Joyce Gorretta 10th from Thomas Rogers  
 Laura Gorretta 11th from Thomas Rogers  
 Lisa Gorretta 11th from Thomas Rogers  
 Janice O'Neil 10th from Constance Hopkins  
 Janice O'Neil 10th from Giles Hopkins

**Columbus Colony**

Ramona Brinker 12th from Samuel Fuller  
 Christina Twardowski 15th from Richard Warren

**Toledo Colony**

Steven Martin 13th from Mary Brewster  
 Steven Martin 13th from William Brewster  
 Heather Reichert 13th from John Howland

### Ohio Mayflower members in the military

**Cincinnati Colony**

Samuel Reel  
 Brad Borowy  
 Alexis Borowy  
 William Reel  
 Nathan Morton

**Cleveland Colony**

Steven Kewish

**Columbus Colony**

Cody Malone

**Toledo Colony**

Michael Brewster

**Western Reserve Colony**

Grant Zaro

**Thank you for your service!**

### OHIO BOARD OF ASSISTANTS UPDATES

Although the State Assembly was cancelled due to the covid-19 related business closures and social distance orders from the state, your Board (BOA) met on May 2, via Zoom, for the purposes of continuing the business of the Ohio Society, including the election and installation of new officers, originally scheduled as part of the State Assembly program. **Jill Parker** and **Lee Martin** were the only changes to the Board. AG **Dr. Don Nichols** conducted the installation of the newly elected Board. Counselor **Margo Broehl** was requested by the Board to designate tellers at her office for the purpose of counting the ballots and report back to Governor **Jill Parker** when that was completed. Your Board

members are listed in each Buckeye Mayflower. The Board also discussed preliminary plans for rescheduling the 400<sup>th</sup> commemoration sometime in 2021.

The BOA will meet again on June 6th to caucus on the slate of new General Society officers and the 5 Bylaws amendments that have been proposed. The General BOA will vote on all of these in an online meeting on June 20th.



## The Native American Epidemic of 1616-1619

*Sandra St. Martin, Columbus Colony*

This was originally going to be a book review of “Miraculous Plagues,” a book cited in a paper on the 1616-1619 Native America epidemic in New England. Though “Miraculous Plagues” was written from Cristobal Silva’s Ph.D. thesis in English Literature, I discovered the reader needed to know a lot of epidemiology to digest the contents. Searching further, I discovered “Rationalizing Epidemics” by David S. Jones. Jones’ book was based on his research at Harvard University and was quite readable. Rationalization, as defined by Jones, refers to how people in several time periods reacted to the difference in illness rates and death rates in the Caucasian and American Indian populations.

There were Europeans in New England long before the Pilgrims arrived in 1620. However, contact between the Native American and European groups were mostly sporadic. The prolific fishing banks were only part of the lure to the New World. The New England Native American groups were prosperous, which resulted in increasing population density and intertribal strife. European arrival added new pressures. Disease was one of these pressures.

So, what happened to result in an approximate 90% Native American population decrease in New England from 1616-1619? Simply, we don’t know. An article by John S Marr and John T. Cathey titled “New Hypothesis for Cause of Epidemic Among Native Americas, New England, 1616-1619,” summarizes early work done on the subject.

William Bradford left a graphic account of the plague, describing how their skin, covered with matted sores and scabs, sloughed off, leaving them “all of a gore blood, most fearful to behold. And then being very sore, what with cold and other distempers, they die like rotten sheep.” Unable to care for each other, “some would crawl out on all fours to get a little water, and sometimes die by the way and not be able to get in again.” Bodies were left unburied.

Historical literature, says the disease was characterized by headache and fever, urine retention and jaundice. Tree ring data suggests greater rainfall than average. How the disease was transmitted isn’t known but it was noted that trade, bringing both groups into contact, was a factor.

Using Bradford’s description and other historical literature, yellow fever, plague, smallpox, chicken pox and typhus were eliminated by various studies. Possible epidemic causes include typhoid fever, influenza and others. John S Marr and John T. Chaney suggest that the culprit was leptospirosis. In other words, European rats brought cork-screw bacteria to North America. Leptospirosis can be transmitted to humans through animals such as dogs, contaminated water and contaminated soil. It can live in a body for years and still be passed on through cuts and abrasions, mucous membranes and even through the air. In 1616-1619 it could be deadly. In 2020, we fight leptospirosis through antibiotics, gloves, eye and foot protection.

I admit to having no expertise in medical issues. I was just curious and did not know where it would lead. My thanks to Dr. Elizabeth Finlay-Belgrad, our surgeon, for reading this prior to submission to the Buckeye Mayflower.

### Member Highlight -- Posthumous

Gordon Wildermuth was a descendant of Richard Warren and had been a member of Toledo Colony for 41 years, since May, 1979. He and current active colony member Walter Huffer were distant cousins. His first wife Patricia died after 20 years of marriage. Ten years later he married Hannelore and moved to her town of Hamburg, Germany. Gordon died after being struck by a motor vehicle while crossing the street in Hamburg on 7 February 2020.

Gordon was born in Bath Township east of Lima, Ohio. He was a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor of Science in Architecture and attained the rank of sergeant in the Green Berets.

Professionally, he helped lead architectural firm Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill in global planning, cultural relevance in buildings, sustainable design, and urban context in their placement. He led architectural projects in the U.S., England, Hong Kong, and Saudi Arabia.

His greatest concern was personal: concern and care for others. His tender care of his parents and wives was deeply touching and instructive to all who observed it. An avid traveler, Gordon was comfortable with people from all walks and stations of life, his journeys taking him nearly everywhere in the world. His greatest concerns were for the damage being done to the planet and for a country he felt had greatly regressed in the quality of its vision and leadership during his lifetime. *Susan Fisher, Toledo Colony*

## MAYFLOWER HISTORY

### Re-launch of Mayflower II

*Bob Coltrin, Cleveland Colony Historian*

In looking forward to the 2020 events, one of my main interests was following the restoration of the Mayflower II. My wife and I had been aboard the ship in 2012 during a visit to Plymouth and we had noted the deterioration of the 60 year old wooden ship. I followed the restoration with much interest through online videos from Mystic Seaport. Then, with the Sept 7, 2019 re-launch date approaching, I received an invitation from Plimoth Plantation to attend the re-launch ceremony. Wow, I immediately responded YES.

Mystic Seaport is an amazing place. We got there the day before the launch just as the museum opened. There were very few people there and we were able to walk up to within a few feet of the Mayflower II as it sat on a rolling cradle. She looked beautiful and majestic all painted up in her new livery. We then watched as she was tow motored out onto the launch elevator.

The impressive ceremony was keynoted by Nathaniel Philbrick, author of the book "Mayflower." His inspiring message included dubbing the Mayflower II a "National Treasure." The ship was christened by Harriet Cross, British Consul General to New England. Instead of a bottle of champagne, which might have been looked at unfavorably by our ancestor pilgrims, the ship was christened by a bottle of water comprised of samples collected from each U.S. State, England and Holland.

The launch was accomplished as the elevator lowered the cradle with the ship into the river. She had the flag of Holland in the bow, the English Jack amid ship and Old Glory on the aft staff. The process took about 20 minutes. Then, it was announced that the Mayflower II was afloat and a cannon was fired. The masts and rigging were added in the fall and the plans were to conduct sea trails in the early Spring and then sail into Boston harbor on May 14<sup>th</sup> escorted by the USS Constitution. My wife and I had made reservations to witness that historic event but the Corona Virus has cancelled (or at least postponed) that sailing.



The arrows point to Bob and his wife!

#### Looking for Historic Home Caretakers...

For a future project, I am looking for any member or spouse or friend who lives in/cares for an Historic Home. This home or building does not be on the National Historic Register. If you are an owner/caretaker of a home or building with a unique history, please contact Jill Parker at [cfrtroutgal@gmail.com](mailto:cfrtroutgal@gmail.com).

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400<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Committee led by **Beth Anderson** and **Peggy Reid** and the groundwork done for the event by **Hilda Pappas, Susan Fisher, Vicky Heineck** and Treasurer **Larry Hoyt**.

**Message to the Class of 2020** – A very special message to the 2020 Graduates, both High School and College. Close to half your senior year has been turned upside down. From everything I've read you have been Resourceful, creative, inventive. You have been service oriented, helping and caring for others. You have had incredible experiences; your emotions and plans have been jostled for sure. But you will emerge wiser than you can even imagine. Let your experiences change your life in a positive way; let 2020 give you a new perspective as to what is really important to you. Go forth to do great things! And I would like to hear from you about your after-graduation activities so we can share them with the membership. We are PROUD OF YOU!

*Jill Parker, Governor*

## OHIO SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

### A New Colony is being Formed

Alexander Hudson

A new colony is being formed on an undiscovered location on Earth. This community of people settling the colony is comprised of 100 people. Of those 100 people, there are 37 men, 13 women and 50 children. The colony first would have to choose people to go out and seek good parcel of land, by this the people chosen for this need to find land high enough so that rains will not flood out the land or that their settlement will not be overtaken easily by flooding of large bodies of water such as seas and rivers.

The organization of this community, after they have found a great parcel of land for their establishment, will be the following. The men in this community will gather and write up an agreement, like the Mayflower Compact to provide an immediate guide to survive in the beginning of the colony and for future generations in the colonies. All of the men in the community will then work to build a common house, an important building to which one of its initial uses is being a hospital to care for the ill. The common house will then become a shelter and meeting house for the colonists after being used as a hospital during the beginning of the colony. The men will work to construct the common house first since it will inevitably hold people in it when they fall ill during the winter months. Those 37 men when healthy in this community will then work to make the other houses for the members.

The entirety of the members will be intermixed amongst one another in the community in order to help form strong bonds and a sense of community from working together to build the community up from the ground and also by virtue of the agreement constructed by the men in the community. After they have finished with the construction of the houses and churches in the community, all 100 people will gather at the common house to discuss a name for the colony that everyone can unite and have something other than their families and themselves to represent.

When they have finished with those tasks of building the shelters and on a name for the colony, the people will choose other members to develop more rules and regulations or laws for the members to abide by to ensure cooperation as well as longevity of peace and tranquility among the members in this new, undiscovered place on earth. Those who are chosen will ask other people, regardless if they are men or children, to search for food and other supplies such as firewood and pelts/furs to make warm coats and hats for colder winter months. The firewood will be stored at a central shelter and the men and/or children will pick up the firewood and bring it to the houses in the community to keep the houses warm and the members healthy and strong for survival of the colony.

With that organization model, there are problems that I do foresee arising. For instance, in terms of the times 400 years ago, women did not have a say in any legal matters or in any important matters involving a community. Here the 37 women discussing their opinions with men about what men they believe should formulate rules/regulations and laws. The women expressing their opinion with men about which male should formulate the rules or laws would be very much a heated topic of debate among the men because that simply is just not how important business was handled 400 years ago. Also, not just with the women expressing their opinions or ideas, but there very well could be a problem that is simply a disagreement over what to name the colony. This disagreement can cause a lot of friction in the community and cause some hard feelings between members and then people could later not want to help others if they had an argument over what to call the colony. This problem is minimal in comparison to the potential problems coming forth from women stating their views and opinions on who is creating and developing rules for the community but is still an area of concern for potential issues that could turn into personal rivalries in the future, which can limit the possibility of ensuring survival in the community. I say that because if personal rivalries form, those can eventually become hostile and even dangerous and when they become dangerous, people can get injured and possibly end up dying.

Additionally, I foresee in the community is certain members shirking their duties in what they volunteered to do, such as some men may not be working as hard and do not hold up their end of the bargain for the community. Those men who do that, are in fact then hurting the overall good of the community because certain projects like the construction of houses and the church may not be completed before a possible cold spell hits them. Also, if some of the men do not hold up their end of the bargain while building the common house, there would be no place to put the sick people other than out amongst the rest of the community, which would then cause the spread of disease which very easily could hurt the possibility of survival in this new land. That in of itself is a major issue, because when starting a homestead or colony from the ground up, the people need to work together to make sure they all survive and sustain the colony for generations to come.

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Aside from people not holding up their end of the bargain, there is also the foreseen problem of people who simply just break the pact and do their own thing. This is a problem that I foresee because if someone wants to build their home for their family or themselves first over the likes of a common house or a church, the whole colony will lose a valuable body to build necessary places. Also, if that person were to start building their home and not help out with building the church or common house, the colony would lose valuable time with fewer men to complete the buildings on time. It would also slow down the gathering of resources to be used to construct other buildings. That leads to them risking the possibility that the colony may not have buildings constructed in time for winter. If this place they landed has cold weather they should prepare for that possibility while the weather is workable conditions, and if someone breaks from the pact that the members of the colony wrote and agreed upon, the colony runs the risk of having not enough space to hold all of the members for the winter.

Next, an issue I do foresee occurring in this new land involves checks and balances. The idea of having checks and balances is good to make sure the people in the colony are held accountable but the issue I see in this is that some of the colonists may disagree over who should have a say in the colony. Even though people will be chosen for this role, if there were to be an issue that arises that involves someone who is among those responsible for ensuring people are held accountable, one or multiple other members of the colony may not have thought that those certain individual should be in that position and could just simply ignore them. By doing so, that would cause a massive issue because other members will see that and may get the idea to try that or they may not want to help out whoever ignored the people because to them they may see those people who decided to disregard those chosen to hold the colonists accountable as if the rules do not apply to them. With that being a possibility, there is also another problem within checks and balances that is very likely to occur, and that is some colonists may not agree with who is in charge of maintaining peace in the colony, so crime does not occur. Some may think people will volunteer to keep peace just so they can go commit crime themselves or confiscate items and just claim it to be an act of keeping peace. The checks and balances has many great attributes about it but with a new land, there is always the likelihood and possibility that people will not tolerate who has a say or whomever is in a position to do certain actions, like holding people accountable or maintaining peace, and just think that they can do what they want to do. These problems are definitely all likely to happen, nobody wants them to happen and you try to prevent this from happening by making and formulating an agreement that everyone signs and works to create, but issues will happen. There are ways to assure the colony will survive though.

I would assure this colony will survive in different ways. These methods involve establishing checkpoints for people in the community to ensure they are staying on the path for the betterment of society, the aforementioned choosing people to maintain the peace in the colony as well as prevent looting or crime from occurring. Another way that I will assure that this colony will survive is by establishing a system of checks and balances, which allows people to hold one another accountable while at the same time not allowing too much power to be placed upon or given to an individual. These methods each provide a basic structure to keep the colony running for the foreseeable future and help ensure its survival.

The establishment of checkpoints to keep people on the right path. By this, I mean that the colony has certain goals to meet by each checkpoint, whether it may be finishing a certain section of the common house or placing in certain areas of the roof on the common house or church. These projects take a lot of manpower and time, so it is important that buildings like the common house and church are put up fast and constructed well because no one wants to endure the possibility of a difficult and harsh winter, and these buildings also are more spacious and can provide housing for the members of the community until the homestead is built. These checkpoints also lead people to working together and get that sense of togetherness and wanting to help one another out. With that in mind, the members of the colony will want to make sure everyone survives.

The next assurance method I will use to ensure that members of the colony will survive is the establishing and choosing between the members to maintain peace and prevent any crimes from occurring. In the times of our ancestors, women were not put into these roles and children helped with the physical work as long as they were boys, but neither boys nor girls were chosen to go into a role that carries this much pressure and responsibility, which leaves the role to be placed upon one of the 37 men. By having one man in that role, you can run into the possibility of him not being able to see the crime being committed. Additionally, if this man the colony members report suspicious behavior to just sits somewhere, then he would not be helping build the colony for everyone. In the end, it needs to be a small committee of some of the 37 men. Losing those men in the beginning may hurt, but after everything is built, and with the help of the number of boys out of the 50 children, the colony can be built and the young boys will have lessons and knowledge on how to build houses in the future.

*(Continued on page 10)*

(Continued from page 9)

Another assurance I will provide for the colony is the establishment of checks and balances, because we do not want the men who are chosen to lead the maintaining of peace, to not abuse their power, and be held accountable for their actions. Having checks and balances enforces the idea of togetherness and helps keep the colony tight to ensure survival. Without the system of checks and balances being set in place by the agreement, similar to the Mayflower Compact, people would not work together and put the colony at risk.

The last way I would assure survival in the colony is by having someone, man or woman, not one of the children make sure there is enough food to last throughout winter. If it were to be an extremely cold and harsh one like our ancestors faced 400 years ago, starvation is a possibility. By ensuring they have collected enough food doing so, the colony will ensure everyone can be fed and have adequate proportions. They will know when they need to go hunt for more game or gather up and harvest whatever food is available.

This colony is one starting from scratch. It will be a difficult venture, but the members all had a reason leaving wherever they were before to come to this new land. Throughout the organization of the community, there will be an intermixing of the men, women and children, the building of churches, common house, and homes, the colony has provided stable footing for its beginnings. In an effort to keep the community strong, meetings will eventually be held. Next, there are problems that will inevitably occur in this colony, and not all problems are bad. Bad problems will arise but working together and ensuring everyone is on the same page for the common goal of building and creating a surviving colony, the members will be fine and live. Lastly, I will assure they will survive through having checkpoints, people keeping and maintaining the peace, system of checks and balances and lastly people checking and ensuring there is an adequate amount of food in cases of emergency or the possibility of a harsh winter they may endure.

## The Portsmouth Compact

*Sandra St. Martin. Columbus Colony*

On 7 March 1638, 23 men signed the Portsmouth Compact in Boston, Massachusetts. They had differences of opinions with the other Massachusetts colonists and were declaring their intent to form a new Christian settlement at Aquidneck Island in Rhode Island. Among the signers was William Hutchinson, husband of the controversial Anne.

After conferring with Roger Williams, and with his help, William Coddington and Dr. John Clarke, bought Aquidneck Island from Narragansett sachems Canonicus and Miantonomi for forty fathoms of white beads, ten coats, and twenty hoes. The settlement became known as Portsmouth.

### The Portsmouth Compact

“We whose names are underwritten do hereby solemnly in the presence of Jehovah incorporate ourselves into a Bodie Politick and as He shall help, will submit our persons, lives and estates unto our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords and all those perfect and most absolute laws of His given us in His Holy Word of Truth, to be guided and judged thereby.”

If you gave the Portsmouth Compact a careful reading, you have noticed that it lacked one thing. A new compact, the Compact of Loyalty was written and signed on 30 April 1639 to make up for this deficiency.

### The Compact of Loyalty

“We whose names are underwritten do acknowledge ourselves the legal subjects of His Majesty King Charles, and in his name do hereby bind ourselves into a civil body politic, unto his laws according to matters of justice.”

Yes, they failed to mention the king!

## 20/20 HINDSIGHT

### 2020 Report – 400<sup>th</sup> Commemoration UPDATE

In mid-March I recommended that due to the corona virus (Covid-19) and Ohio Governor, Mike DeWine declaring a state emergency and reducing gatherings to less than 50 people, that we postpone the planned 2020/400th event. With the agreement of the Mayflower leadership in Ohio we did cancel the event at both the hotel and with the speaker, both contracts had a clause that allowed us to do that without penalty. **Hilda Pappas** and I have been collaborating with **Jill Parker** as to preliminary plans for October 2021. But before that discussion I want to recognize and thank all the Mayflower members who contributed their time and talents to planning the 2020 event. (\*= planning committee members).

**Cincinnati Colony:** Peggy Reid\*, Sue Bray, Debbi Riley, Laura Baumeister, Eileen Sheehan, Susan Davis, Shaun Smith, Star Vondrell, Joe Anderson (Beth's husband).

**Cleveland Colony:** Vicky Heineck\*, Mark Leisure, Dr. Don Nichols, Larry Hoyt\*, Andrea Aussant, Carolyn Cheverine, Bob Coltrin, Kathy Leisure, George Aussant

**Toledo Colony:** Susan Fisher\*, Don Calvin, Mike & Christy Brewster

**Columbus Colony:** Hilda Pappas\*, Sharon Hendershot, Win Worcester

**Western Reserve:** Jill Parker\*, Paul Morehouse, Pat Van Hoose, Ann Gulbransen, Barb Keller, Mary Fuller (WR Friend), Lee Martin, Christina Wagner-Schepis.

**Wrap up on 2020 Event:** I have been in communication with Joshua Taylor and informed him that we will be planning a quite different event in 2021. I know several of you were excited about the opportunity to meet him and hear his information.

After consulting with the State leadership, we decided to **award the "Bring Them all on Board"** recognition. We had a tie between two families and I chose the one who achieved the goal first and the recognition has been given to Columbus Colony member **Ms. Karen Jordan**, an Edward Fuller descendant, who brought on board her mother, 2 siblings, 2 children and a niece. The award was an engraved walkway brick at GSMD in Plymouth.

My final thoughts on this project are multiple. I will mention a few in no order:

I appreciate all the help and support from the BOA and the planning committee for this event, it was a major undertaking

I learned a lot from everyone I worked with and appreciate all the skills in this group

I never could have done this without the help of Peggy Reid and the task lists that kept me on task!

I appreciate the off the books conversations with Sandy that helped with my decision making.

I appreciate Larry taking on the treasurer role in the middle of the process.

I do appreciate the opportunity to have led this project and I am sorry the event had to be cancelled. I am sorrier that it ended because of pandemic and the number of lives that have been lost. It is a reminder of the sacrifices of our ancestors during the "great sickness" and they moved on with half of the pilgrims and built a colony. So, I expect we too will learn, move on, and look forward to 2021.

*Beth Anderson, Chairperson Ohio Mayflower 2020 |400<sup>th</sup>*

## COLONY CHRONICLES

### News from the Cincinnati Colony

To quote our Pilgrim Pledge " recall and cherish the struggles made by them for the 'common good'... We come from good stock, and we will be victorious. "to emulate their Spirit"!

The world has stopped but Time keeps marching along...albeit rather slowly! I pray this note finds you all safe and healthy, and as sane as possible. I am fortunate to be retired with grown kids...just miss the grands.

**Our April 4th meeting was cancelled, our agenda would have included the information about the upcoming May 1 & 2 State 2020 meeting in Columbus, which is cancelled. The Cincinnati Colony was charged with several important duties, including hotel and speaker details. Beth Anderson and Peggy Reid were phenomenal in implementing this. As far as I am aware, we will not be having this State meeting this year. Looking in to next year, possibly. The first Thanksgiving for our ancestors would have been in 1621, so maybe we can have a bigger celebration 2021... just supposition at this point. You should have received refunds for this already.**

**Cincinnati Colony has approved** changes made to our yearly award to a qualified student at Xavier University. Change included the time frame of receiving the award from Fall to Spring meeting.

We have no set date for a Colony meeting right now. Hopeful that we can have board members for a zoom meeting To stay up to date with any new items or concerns.

#### \*\*Fun News

We had a 100th Birthday celebration. Member Jean Muetzel's father, Jim Hall, celebrated his 100th Birthday in early March. Jean put the word out, and Jim received many birthday congrats!!!Happy Birthday again Jim!

*Star Vandrell, Lt Governor, Cincinnati Colony.*

### News from the Cleveland Colony

**Meetings:** The colony continues to hold board of assistant's meetings and one business meeting annually.

**2020 Spring Business Meeting:** The March 21, 2020 event was cancelled.

**2020 Compact Day:** At this point, the annual November 21, 2020 Compact Day buffet luncheon will be held again at the Lakewood Country Club located in Westlake, Ohio. Our keynote speaker will be Past Governor General Lea Filson and her program will be published closer to the event. Our colony is honored to welcome the Past Governor General to our Compact Day dinner this year. After the traditional passenger roll call, we will recognize the Veterans again and thank them for their service and let them know we will never forget. As in the past, we will open the invitation to multiple local lineage societies and guests. More details to come.

*Vicky Heineck, Lt. Governor, Cleveland Colony*

### News from the Columbus Colony

**The April 18, 2020 spring meeting at Kensington Place was rescheduled for May 16 and again cancelled.**

**Election** On April 18 an election of new officers was held with absentee ballots sent by e-mail. The ballots were counted and reported to the Colony BOA by Jenney Seely, Corresponding Secretary. The vote was unanimous. The Columbus Colony Board of Assistants is proud to announce our Colony officers for the upcoming 2020-2023 administration

Lt. Governor Hilda Pappas

Deputy Governor Charles Mays

Recording Secretary Kristen Hallows

Treasurer Winthrop Worcester

Corresponding. Secretary Jenney Seely

Elder Cheryl Bash

Historian Sharon Bardus	Captain Gary Barstow
BOA Representative Jan Kleinline	Director Sharon Hendershot
Director Donald Burgess	Scholarship Chair Dr. Jan Ebert
Membership Chair Judy Snyder	Education Chair Jan Kleinline
Social Chair Carolyn White	Junior Member Chair OPEN
Program Chair OPEN	

**November 14, 2020 Our Compact Day Luncheon will be held at a place to be determined.** Janice Kleinline, our Education chair, will speak of the way of life in Plimoth in 1620. Dressed in Pilgrim garb, she will bring items to show that would have been used then. She will also be bringing items from Plimoth Plantation for sale. This should be of interest to Mayflower Cousins of all ages. Installation of new officers will be held.

**Scholarship** The deadline for applications for the \$1000 Winifred Schamp Scholarship was extended to April 30. According to Dr. Ebert, there were no applications submitted.

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.

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 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.

*Hilda Pappas, Lt. Governor Columbus Colony*

## News from the Toledo Colony



Happy 80th Birthday! Toledo Colony was established on 20 June 1940. As in our individual lives, there have been ups and downs. However, those times serve as confirmation that we will persevere. Right now we are in the first covid-19 virus pandemic. Being of "older age" gives us the advantage that we know "this, too, shall pass". I invite you to put 80 candles on your next cake--or at least put two candles that are the 8 and the zero!

The colony scholarship will be offered, with the application deadline being in November. Guidelines and forms will be included with the summer newsletter which is sent to all colony members and which will be available at the State website after mid-June. The scholarship is

open to all colony Junior Members and colony adult members.

The colony board approved a \$425 donation to the GSMD Meetinghouse Project. A check was mailed to the State Treasurer in May, to be added to the donations from the other four colonies in Ohio.

**Next Meetings:** If government regulations allow, the next colony meeting will be offered on Saturday, 18 July, at the Wolcott House in Maumee, a suburb of Toledo. This historic complex preserves items of the early 1880's and information about early settlers of the Maumee Valley. They planned to open on 30 May and have an exhibit honoring the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The exhibit will be open all season. More details will be in the colony newsletter, available on the State website.. The final decision of whether to offer this colony meeting will be made by 1 July. Please check the State website for the latest status after that date.

**Compact Day:** This remains scheduled for 14 November.

*Susan Fisher, Lt. Governor, Toledo Colony*

## News from the Western Reserve Colony

The Western Reserve Colony's March meeting has historically been the event where the annual Memorial Service is held, and this year was no different. Elder Pat Van Hoose led the service, where cousins commemorated the members who have passed away in the previous year. Reggie Watson was the guest speaker, and she presented the "Adventures of a Cemetery Hunter." The meeting was held at the Skyland Pines Rustic Lodge in Canton and Junior Members Skylar and Madison Harig led the Pledge of Allegiance and Historian

Terri Brown introduced the new Nona Barath and Bob Stands. Mike DeWine's stay-at-home order, especially because they got a sneak peek at the centerpieces WR Friend Mary Fuller made for state conference!



We had many applicants at the March meeting. Here is a photo of the group!

Members were informed of the cancellation of the State meetings to be held in Columbus. The colony approved a donation of \$262 toward the Pilgrim Memorial Hall Restoration Project. This amount was the

suggestion of the State Board.

After much deliberation, the annual summer picnic has been cancelled. We hope that we can meet at the Greentown Community Park again in 2021. Study up on your Mayflower Maize clues...

*Christina Wagner Schepis, Lt. Governor, Western Reserve Colony*

## 400 Point Award Recipients Announced

The following individuals participated in the 400 Point Challenge. Their awards are ready and will be delivered to their Colony Lt. Gov. for eventual distribution; Ohio's re-opening plans will be a big determinant in when this will happen. Congratulations to all, and please see a separate article asking for some input from you:

CLEVELAND - Vicky Heineck, Kathleen Leisure

COLUMBUS – Marsha Duffey, Jan Kleinline, Hilda Pappas, Sandra St. Martin, Jack Bradford, Olivia Bradford

WESTERN RESERVE – Theresa Brown, Ann Gulbransen, Sarah Keeler, Ryan Keeler, Barb Keller, Barbara Lysic, Paul Morehouse, Jonna Nesbella, Joseph Nesbella, Jun-He Nesbella, Jill Parker, Cheryl Strong, Christina Wagner Schepis

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please check with your Colony leadership to confirm that these events are occurring. Until the shelter-at-home orders are lifted, all dates are tentative.

~~June 20, 2020: Western Reserve Colony Picnic, Greentown Community Park—Canceled~~

July 18, 2020: Toledo Colony visit to the Wolcott House

November 7, 2020: Cincinnati Colony Compact Day

November 14, 2020: Columbus Colony Compact Day

November 14, 2020: Toledo Colony Compact Day

November 15, 2020: Western Reserve Colony Compact Day, Skyland Pines

November 21, 2020: Cleveland Colony Compact Day, Lakewood County Club

We hope to see you at the next meeting of your Colony and you are welcome to attend any Colony meeting. Contact the Lt. Governor (see p 2) for more information.

If you know of other genealogy or family history events that should be listed here, please email them to [ohmayflowernewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ohmayflowernewsletter@gmail.com) and they will be posted in future issues!

### Storage of State Records

*Susan Fisher, Toledo Colony*

As of March, 2020, all paper Membership Records and all paper minutes of the State Board of Assistants of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the state of Ohio from 1898 through 2012 have been stored. The most complete set is with the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library and Museums at Spiegel Grove in Fremont, Ohio. The call number is 929.374 Mayfl. The other sets are with the Ohio Genealogical Society in Bellville, OH, and the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN, the library that copied the originals and bound the copies into book form at no charge to SMDOH.

All records at Hayes may be viewed by any patron. All records at the Genealogical Center at Allen County Public Library may be viewed by any patron. Our records are now in safe keeping at three different locations.

### Social Distancing...12 miles out on a rock

*Jill Parker, Western Reserve Colony*

While fulfilling orders for the Mayflower Maize (orders from 27 states!) back in 2017-2018, I became friends with Sandy (North Carolina) and her brother Stephen (on an island off the coast of Maine). They are descendants through both their parents (in many cases multiple lines) of John Alden, Isaac Allerton, William Bradford, William Brewster, Edward Doty, Stephen Hopkins, John Howland, Priscilla Mullins, William Mullins, Degory Priest, Thomas Rogers, Myles Standish, Elizabeth Tilley, John and Joan Tilley among others. We check in on each other from time to time and Stephen always signs his emails "12 miles out on a Rock". Stephen and I had quite the discussion recently about **social distancing** and he mentioned that water is a natural barrier for viruses but that island inhabitants (fewer than 400) do need to "go off the island" from time to time." The ferry takes about 70 minutes. As of late March there were no known cases on the island and the residents are under orders by the town council to limit travel off the island. They are holding their town meetings via telephone. I surprised him by sending a couple of the "1620" stress rocks many of you are familiar with. He was pleased to get them and will have fun "de-stressing" while reflecting on some of the heroic legacies of 1620. He promised two things: (1) to continue submitting additional lines to Plymouth and (2) to stay in touch with me, even though I am "from away" (i.e. not from Maine).

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## Lineage Activity – for ALL Ages

*Jill Parker, Western Reserve Colony*

**What is this activity?** This is an individual or family genealogy activity, good for all ages. The purpose is to learn and remember your Mayflower (or other) line(s). **Is that all?** Of course not!!! This activity is designed so that you can continually add to what you know about each ancestor.

### **BASIC ACTIVITY:**

Step 1: Buy a package of index cards. I like the kind that are lined on one side and blank on the other.

Step 2: On the blank side write the name of each ancestor in your line – one name per card – and write the name in large print. Make a card up for spouse's also. NOTE: This can be completed by you or as an activity with other family members while enjoying a cup of tea, hot chocolate, or egg nog!

Step 3: Shuffle cards.

Step 4: Put the cards in the proper order creating your LINE. How long did it take? Did you get the spouse's cards matched up correctly?

### **SUPPLEMENTAL ACTIVITIES:**

Add information on the back (lined) side of each card – key dates, how they got to America, where they lived, what they did, etc. This can be done "all at once" or can be done as an on-going activity over time. The information can be researched by one person or by family "volunteers".

Great opportunity to learn more about a specific ancestor. Have fun, learn more about your ancestors...yourself or with other family members. By the way...you may need the BIG index cards!!!

Special thanks to Ed Trafford (Toledo Colony) who took an interest in Jill's request for help with a special "behind the scenes" project.

Special thanks to Dennis Moffitt (Columbus Colony) and Terri Brown (Western Reserve Colony) for providing Jill Parker with the missing Mayflower Quarterly information she had requested!