



*Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the state of
Ohio*

Buckeye Mayflower

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio

www.ohiomayflower.org

Volume 41 Issue 1

March 2023

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Ann Gulbransen
Vicky Heineck
Nancy Little
Cincy Nichols
Hilda Pappas
Jill Parker
Edmund Trafford
Star Vondrell

A Message from our Governor

Greetings Cousins!

Our Mayflower ancestors greeted Spring with great anticipation, hope and joy for their new life. They had been through so much but spring brought sunshine, warm weather, and heralded a much needed growing season. We too welcome spring because it usually means our Annual Meeting is just around the corner. Be sure to read the several articles in this newsletter related to our **Annual Meeting**



ANNUAL MEETING

This year Western Reserve is hosting us in **Kent, Ohio**. The event is coming together with a dynamic speaker lined up, wonderful hotel and conference center, good food, memorabilia tables, gift bags, and more. Lt. Governor Cindy Nichols and Deputy Lt. Governor Marilyn Sessions have been busy making this event very special. So mark your calendars for **May 5 and 6, 2023!** And I hope to see you in Kent. **NOTE:** *Invitations (and the ballot) and RSVP envelopes will be mailed to each of you soon.*

STATE BOARD OF ASSISTANTS – ELECTIONS (and By-Law changes)

Believe it or not it is time for elections again and they will take place at the Annual Meeting. You will be receiving your ballots soon. Please return them by the deadline. The new Board will serve from May 2023 thru May 2026. There are also a few By-Law changes that require your vote. They are included on the Board Election Ballot.

WHO IS ON THE BOARD?

The list of Board members is on page 2 of this every newsletter. The Board is made up of “officers” elected state wide. In addition each Colony sends 2 of its members to the meetings – their Lt. Governor and their BOA Representative. All of the above are voting members, but most of our decisions are made thru consensus, with input from everyone on the Board, including the appointed and ex-officio members.

Continued on page 4

BOARD OF ASSISTANTS IN THE STATE OF OHIO

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Toledo

Vacant Lt Governor

Vacant, BOA Representative

Western Reserve

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Mandy Brooks, BOA Representative

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RD

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Mandy Brooks, Scholarship Chair

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Todd Reel, Jr. Membership Coordinator

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Jan Kleinline, Sales and information table

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CELEBRATING MEMBERSHIP

Member Milestones September 2022-February 2023

Cincinnati

James Hughes 50 years
Meredith Weber – 35 years
Vincent Capasso – 25 years

Cleveland

Elizabeth Barnhouse – 45 years
Walter Harwood – 45 years
Jerold Bruce – 40 years
John Penty – 40 years
Catherine Hammond - 40 years
James Whitehead – 40 years
Linda Miller – 35 years
Constance Brittain – 35 years
Leigh Brewster – 30 years
Robert Brewster – 30 years
Donald Nichols – 25 years
Michal Barnes – 25 years
Jeffrey Taussig – 25 years
Jane Zerillo – 20 years
Sally Koumpouras – 20 years
David Grenell – 20 years
Steven Kewish – 20 years

Columbus

Linda Anderson – 45 years
Brent Elston – 45 years
Rebecca Zink – 45 years
Eva Hughes – 35 years
Lisa Cravens-Brown – 35 years
Emma Burkhardt – 35 years
Debra Wood – 25 years
Robert Hammond – 25 years
Scott Hammond – 25 years
Susan Johnston – 25 years
Michael Miller – 25 years
Leslie Price – 25 years
Norma Hillman – 20 years
William McEwan – 20 years
Elizabeth Hawkins – 20 years

Toledo

Richard Dunham – 67 years
Helen Smolinsky – 45 years
Clarabelle Bothe – 25 years

Western Reserve

Lee Martin – 25 Years
Patrick Corbus – 25 years
Martin Gould – 20 years

Congratulations to **Henry F. T. Ruhl**, the winner of the 2002-23 Ohio Society Scholarship! Henry is a descendant of Richard Warren. His winning essay title was "Vision and Commitment," and looked at the skills his ancestor needed to survive in the new world and how those skills could be translated into his future career. The entire essay can be found on the Ohio Mayflower website under the Scholarship tab.

Mr. Ruhl lives in Solon, Ohio, and is a senior at Solon High School. He is a student athlete, plays in the band, lifeguards in the summer, and helps run community hunger drives. In the fall he will attend Case Western Reserve University studying Biology and Math.

Henry will be recognized at the annual meeting in Kent in May. Please join us in congratulating him on this accomplishment.

Mandy Brooks, Ohio Mayflower Scholarship Chair

Mary Chase, Vicky Heineck, Jan Kleinline, Ohio Mayflower Scholarship Committee Members

Continued from page 1

We rely on an increasing number of volunteers – members who have a particular talent or interest they can use to help the Ohio Society. If YOU have a particular interest or desire to help, please contact your Lt. Governor to share your ideas on how you can help your Colony and/or the Ohio Mayflower BOA.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF OUR SOCIETY?

From time to time I am asked why does the Society exist? What is it all about? Well, I thought I'd go to our founding documents and here is what our Constitution says:

The objectives of this Society shall be:

- *to perpetuate to a remote posterity the memory of our Pilgrim Ancestors;*
- *to maintain and defend the principles of civil and religious liberty as set forth in the Compact of the Mayflower, "For the glorie of God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our countrie;"*
- *to cherish and maintain the ideals and institutions of American freedom, and to oppose any theories or action that threaten their continuity;*
- *to transmit the spirit, the unity of purpose and steadfastness of will of the Pilgrims to those who shall come after us, an undiminished heritage of liberty and law;*
- *to promote the interests that are common to all of the Colonies of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio which can only be served by a state body;*
- *to secure united effort to discover and publish original matter in regard to the Pilgrims, together with existing data known only to antiquarians;*

For me, finding and promoting ways that the Ohio Society can promote the interests that are common to all the Colonies stands out. I think we do that well and I think we can even do it better.

MY LAST GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE (but I'm hanging around)

My three years as Governor have flown by – pandemic – rescheduled 400th – elections – bylaw changes – what an adventure. It took the entire Board and many volunteers to help us successfully navigate the last three years. I thank each and everyone of you, especially the SMDOH leadership team and the leadership teams at each Colony for all your help! We are able to do much by helping each other. I will help with the transition to the new BOA and help when and where I am needed.

I have made every effort to be kind, patient, understanding and caring. And I see the same in many of you. I think those traits helped our ancestors survive. I pledge to you that I will continue to listen more and speak kindly - with as few words as possible. Hope to see you at the Annual Meeting!

Blessings to you all.

Jill Parker, Western Reserve

Caring for each other..

Our Mayflower ancestors helped each other and we are looking at ways we can do that in today's world. We can look out for each other in ways that show we care – carpooling to Colony meetings, driving a member to an appointment, sending a “thinking of you” card, paying for another member's lunch or their membership fees are just a few ways to help. Without violating any privacy laws, let us know if someone could use help from our members. Be sure to get their permission and share only as much information as needed. But once you have that, contact your Lt. Governor, and we will come up with ways your Colony might be able to help. For example, if you know that a member is in a care facility and could use some encouragement cards, we can let some members know so they can send cards (be sure to get us the address!). If a member is struggling with finances but would otherwise attend our meetings, offer to take them to the meeting and pay for their meal. We are modern day colonies and we want to help each other according to our abilities and others needs.

Jill Parker, Governor, Western Reserve Colony

Silver Book Donations to Libraries



Hudson Library: Chris and Julia Karman with Archivist Gwen Mayer. Chris has been funding the book donations to the Hudson Library.

On January 9, 2023, Hilda Pappas, Columbus Colony Lt. Governor; and Sharon Hendershot, 2017-2020 Columbus Colony Lt. Governor met with Heidi and David in the Local History Room at Bexley Library. Five Silver Books were donated from the OH Society to bring their current collection from the July 2017 donation up-to-date.



Medina Library: Gina Turner, librarian Lauren Kuntzman and Nancy Pound.



Your Ohio Society wants to expand our library donation program. We will continue to add new books to the libraries we currently support but want to add more over the next few years. To help with this, we are now accepting donations from our members targeted to library donations. Go to www.ohiomayflower.org/donations to help with this project.

About DNA

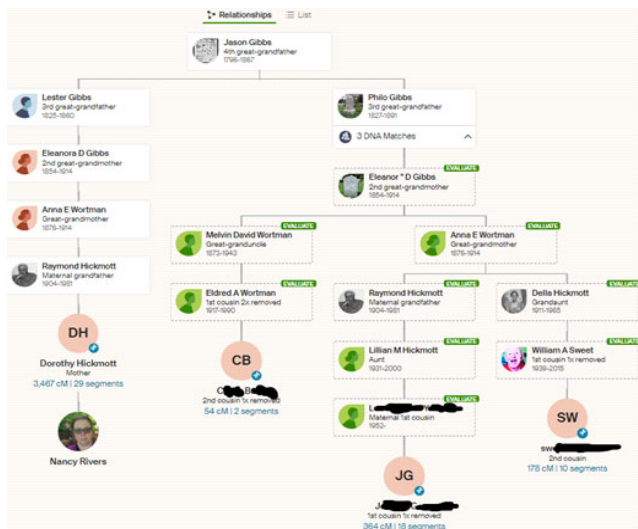
When Ancestry ThruLines Misleads

Nancy Little, Cincinnati

Ancestry ThruLines is a great tool that can help break through brick walls or help confirm suspected relationships that just cannot be proven through primary documentation. However, it should also be noted that ThruLines is not always accurate. ThruLines uses data from Ancestry Trees to try to connect DNA cousins. As many people know, the trees on Ancestry are not the most reliable information, so any tool that takes advantage of that weakness is prone to problems.

One way that I do use ThruLines is to help confirm a suspected relationship. If I have multiple DNA matches to siblings of my direct ancestor that generally gives a good indication that the relationship is accurate. However, it is no substitute for doing actual research to find primary or secondary sources of documentation.

I was checking ThruLines to see if I had proof that Lester Gibb's father is Jason Gibbs (which I suspect is true). This is what I found.



This would seemingly indicate that I have several DNA cousins who descend from Philo Gibbs, brother of Lester Gibbs and sons of Jason Gibbs. However, look at it closely. At least 2 of those matches are descendants of my direct ancestors, and all 3 are descendants of Eleanor Gibbs – my 2nd great grandmother. Ok, so that may indicate I have the wrong father for Eleanor – it should be Philo instead of Lester. There's only one problem with that. The information is coming from wrong information in my match's trees.

When I first started researching, Eleanora D. Gibbs, I was unsure of who her father was. She was born in Michigan in 1854, which is before birth records were required. In the 1860 census, she is listed in the household of Philo Gibbs. The listing is a little strange through as normally, it would list head of household, spouse, children of couple and then others in the household. In this case, it lists Eleanor after Lester who is older than Philo. This has an implication that Eleanor may be Lester's child instead of Philo's. Although to be fair, the enumerator might have just listed all adults and then the children in the household. The 1860 census does not specify relationships, so there is no actual proof of who her father is. Philo's wife is Mary Jane Perry which is confirmed through a marriage record.

1863	1228	Philo Gibbs	33	Dr	20	2000	500	N.Y.
		Mary Jane	29	F				Do
		Lester	34	Dr	20	2000	500	Do
		Eleanor	6	F				Do
1864	1229	Jason	63	Dr	20	1000	100	Do
		Abigail	62	F				Do

Figure 1 Ancestry.com. 1860 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

By 1870, Eleanor is married and living with her husband John Wortman. She is 2 households away from Philo, and still next door to Abigail Wortman. Lester has disappeared (and to date, I have no idea what has happened to him).

216	229	Philo Gibbs	34	Dr	20	2000	500	N.Y.
		Mary Jane	29	F				Do
		Lester	34	Dr	20	2000	500	Do
		Eleanor	6	F				Do
216	230	William Hilliker	59	Dr	20	1000	100	Do
		Mary	35	F				Do
		John	8	F				Do
		Albert	6	F				Do
		William	1	F				Do
217	231	William Hilliker	31	Dr	20	1000	100	Do
		Eleanor	16	F				Do
218	232	William Hilliker	75	Dr	20	1000	100	Do

Figure 2: Ancestry.com. 1870 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

But there is another household between Philo Gibbs and the Wortman's that is important – the Hilliker household. Why is this important? Because Mary Hilliker, the wife of Mortimer Hilliker, is Lester's former wife. How do I know this? Well, I found a marriage record in late 1850 for Lester Gibbs and Mary Conly, and another one for Mortimer and Mary in 1868. In reality, Mary Conly was married 4 times – there's a couple of husbands between Lester Gibbs and Mortimer Hilliker – again proven with marriage records which link the surname changes and the dates fall in-between the marriages to Lester and Mortimer.

Ok, that's great, but how do we know that Eleanor Gibbs is the daughter of Lester and Mary instead of Philo and Mary Jane? The simple answer is we don't unless we look at the probate record for Mary Hilliker. In that probate record, it clearly shows that Eleanor is fighting for her share of the inheritance and it was determined that yes, Eleanor is Mary's daughter and therefore entitled to her share of the inheritance.

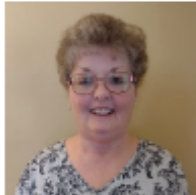
And your petitioners further shew, that the names and residence of the heirs at law of said deceased, and other persons interested in his estate, are as follows:				
William Hilliker	Do	William Hilliker	Do	William Hilliker
Albert P. Hilliker	Do	Albert P. Hilliker	Do	Albert P. Hilliker
Harriet A. Hilliker	Do	Harriet A. Hilliker	Do	Harriet A. Hilliker
Lilly Hilliker	Do	Lilly Hilliker	Do	Lilly Hilliker
Ella B. Hilliker	Do	Ella B. Hilliker	Do	Ella B. Hilliker

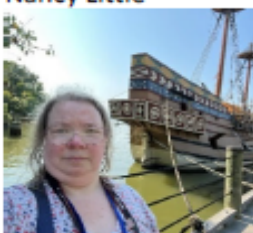
Figure 3: Excerpt from the Petition of William Travis as Executor of the Estate of Mary Hilliker, Ancestry.com. Michigan, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1784-1980 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015.

So, now we have proof that Eleanora (who also went by Ella) Gibbs Wortman (also spelled Workman) is the daughter of Mary Conly Gibbs Hilliker. Since Mary Conly was married to Lester Gibbs, it makes sense that Lester is the father of Eleanora and not Philo. Which means the ThruLines of Jason Gibbs that shows that I have 3 DNA matches that are descendants of Philo Gibbs who is a brother of Lester Gibbs from whom I descend is wrong. It is wrong because they have mistakenly made Philo the father of Eleanora without any actual documentation. The moral of the story is that it is still a great tool just like any other tool, but it is no substitute for doing actual genealogically sound research..

2023-2026 Elections

At the annual meeting in May, we will be electing our officers for the 2023-2026 term. Your ballot is in the envelope that contains your invitation to the meeting. Please return the ballot in the envelope provided by May 1, 2023 or bring to the meeting with you. The candidates are on this page and the following page.

Governor	Mary Elizabeth (Beth) Anderson 	I have been a member of the Ohio Mayflower Society since 2013 when I proved my mother's ancestral line to William Brewster, I have supplemental lines to Mary Brewster, Thomas and Joseph Rogers, Stephen, Giles, and Constance Hopkins. I am from the Cincinnati Colony where I served as Historian and Corresponding Secretary as well as representing the colony on the Ohio Board of Assistants. During my time on the BOA, I was privileged to lead the Commemoration for the 400th Anniversary of the Mayflower's arrival on Cape Cod, of course this was in 2020. Due to the covid pandemic the successful celebration was a year later in 2021. I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Ohio Mayflower Society both in Cincinnati and at the state level and hope to help increase participation by our members at both the colony and state levels. Mentoring new and existing members to be involved will keep the Ohio Society growing new leadership for the future.
Deputy Historian	Terri Brown 	Terri has been a member of the Western Reserve Colony since 2006. She has served as WR Junior Member Coordinator 2016-18; Assistant Historian 2018-19; Historian 2019 – current and SMDOH Acting Deputy Historian. Ancestors: John Alden, Priscilla and William Mullins, William, Mary and Love Brewster, John, Joan, Elizabeth Tilley, John Howland, Richard Warren
Deputy Governor	Betsie McConnell Gricar 	Betsie has been a Life-Member of the Columbus Colony for over 50 years. She has served the Society as Colony Historian as well as State Corresponding Secretary and Assistant Governor and would like to continue that role to serve the Ohio Society. Her ancestor is William White through son Resolved.
Elder	Cheryl Bash 	Cheryl has been an active member of GSMD since 2014. She has served two terms as Columbus Colony Elder. Currently, she is acting State Elder. Her ancestors are Bradford, Brewster, Mullins, Alden, and Warren. Cheryl is a retired elementary school teacher.
Corresponding Secretary	Wanda Langdon 	Wanda has been a member of the GSMD since 2018. She has served in the Cincinnati Colony since that time as Recording Secretary. Her ancestors are Edward Fuller, son Samuel and Richard Warren.

Captain	Merlyn (Troy) Bailey 	Troy has been a member of the Cleveland Colony since 1995. He is a descendant of William Brewster, John Alden, Priscilla and William Mullins. He has been a member of the Northeastern Ohio Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution for 25 years, a past president of the Ohio Society SAR and currently serve as the Ohio Society Registrar and serve on several committees at the National Society SAR. He was featured in the Member Spotlight in the December 2022 Buckeye Mayflower.
Recording Secretary	Nancy Little 	Nancy has been a member of the Cincinnati Colony since 2019. She currently serves the Colony as Corresponding Secretary. Nancy is an appointed member of the BOA for SMDOH as co-newsletter editor and Cincinnati Colony BOA Representative. She is a descendant of John Howland and Elizabeth Tilley on her father's side. She is also a descendant through her mother of Stephen Hopkins, Francis Eaton and Francis Billington. Her profession is in computer technology.
Counselor	Margo Broehl 	Margo is a member of the Western Reserve Colony. She is an attorney and has served as counselor for SMDOH since 2017. She is running for her 3 rd term as Counselor. She is a descendant of William Bradford.
Treasurer	Mary Chase 	Mary has been a member of GSMD since 1999. She has been an active member of the Cleveland Colony since 2008 serving as Deputy Lt. Governor; Treasurer; and is a member of the Cleveland Board of Assistants. Mary served the Ohio Society as Corresponding Secretary, Scholarship chairwoman, and Interim Treasurer. She belongs to other lineage societies where she has held numerous leadership roles. Her interests include reading and volunteering at the Hope Center for Refugees in Cleveland.
Surgeon	Dr. Elizabeth Finley Belgrad 	Elizabeth (Beth) has been a Mayflower member all her life of the Cleveland Colony, attending meetings with her mother and grandmother. She has been the surgeon for the Ohio Society since earning her MD in 1987. Her ancestor is John Alden, and also traces back to Rogers, Chilton and Cooke. Beth is a Child Psychiatrist and is particularly interested in preventing problems, mothering, and nutritional intervention. She is hoping to continue in the role as surgeon and provide support, advice, and timely medical information to our members.
Historian	Ann Gulbransen 	Ann is a member of the Western Reserve Colony since 2006. She has served as Historian for SMDOH since 2007. Her expertise has made Ohio one of the most productive member societies. She has also served as corresponding secretary and treasurer for WR. She is a descendant of Brewster, Hopkins and Edward Fuller. She also volunteers for several other lineage societies and the Cuyahoga Valley Photo Society.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT...*The Mayflower Guard Ohio Guarantor Program?*

One of the challenges of any organization is to keep news fresh while being sure to let new members know about existing programs and opportunities. We also recognize that long time members may have a new interest in being more involved and supportive. In recognition of both situations, we are adding a “DO YOU KNOW ABOUT” column from time to time to bring refreshed awareness of ways to be involved and/or support the Ohio Mayflower Society.

Remembering how the towns of our ancestors often “guaranteed” that they would provide mutual aid to other towns as needed, Ohio’s Western Reserve Colony Board was inspired to propose that Ohio “guarantee” that it would financially help support one or more Ohio members desiring to be part of The Mayflower Guard through a voluntary donor program.



The Ohio Guarantor membership is open to anyone who would like to support this program in Ohio. For a \$25 donation a donor will receive a magnetic lapel pin identifying their support.

Western Reserve Colony administers the program but the money from donations goes into the Ohio Society treasury. The pins themselves were donated anonymously at no cost to the state. The pins are available at each Annual Meeting, or speak to your Colony Lt.

Governor about becoming a member.

One of the gifts our Ohio 4000th member, Cincinnati’s Tim Calver, received was a membership into the Ohio Guarantor program along with the pin. In Tim’s thank you note he said he was especially proud to receive the gift of the membership! See the Winter 2022 newsletter if you missed the information about Tim.

Here is a current list of our members. If we accidentally left your name off, please notify Governor Jill Parker at OhioMayflowerGovernor@gmail.com.

Cincinnati: Beth Anderson, Tim Calver

Cleveland: Diane Gilbert, Vicky Heineck

Columbus: Sharon Hendershot, Jan Kleinline, Hilda Pappas, Natasha Pappas, Alexis Pappas, Alaina Pappas, George Pappas II, Sandy St. Martin, Mary Lynn White

Western Reserve: Terri Brown, Ann Gulbransen, Sarah Keeler, Barbara Keller, Jonathan Kittredge, Jill Parker, Christina Schepis

Members who have passed away: Marty Gulbransen (WR) and Paul Morehouse (WR)

Watch your mail for your invitation to the 125th annual meeting on May 5-6 in Kent Ohio! Friday evening there will be a cocktail hour with hors d’ouvres and a cash bar, and an optional dinner with our keynote speaker. Saturday will include our regular annual business meeting, luncheon, keynote speaker Dr. Scott Culpepper and much more. Tours of the Kent State University will be available.

Included in your invitation will be two small envelopes to return your ballot for our elections and your RSVP. Western Reserve Colony is excited to be your host for the 2023 annual meeting.

Special Recognitions at Ohio Mayflower Society Annual Meeting - 2023

The Ohio Mayflower Society's newsletter, *The Buckeye Mayflower*, is the best way to stay on top of what is happening in our Mayflower Society as well as what's going on in the 5 Colonies in Ohio.

The *PRESS* was extremely important in the early 1600's also. Elder William Brewster was among the group that fled England, ending up in Leiden in 1609. With a few others Brewster began to run a printing press including publications of religious material. They soon ran into trouble with English and Dutch authorities alike and William Brewster went into hiding in 1618 for a few years. When the Main Beam cracked on the Mayflower, it is said the printing press screw was used to put the beam back in place and hold it there. There are others that believe it was a home construction screw that served to hold the beam up. Regardless of which is true, the Pilgrims, under the leadership of Elder William Brewster, kept the Press alive and well in America as they had done in England and Holland.

The Ohio Mayflower Society's special relationship with The Brewster Press

"The Great Book," published in 1618, was one of two dozen books printed by William Brewster at his Choir Alley Printing Shop in Leyden, Holland. As time has passed, books printed by Brewster have become collector's items. A copy of "The Great Book" had belonged to Christ's College in Cambridge, England and bears its bookplate. This book subsequently was purchased by John Pearson, a well known book collector from Cleveland, Ohio. Sometime in the early 1940's, Mr. Pearson took the book to the General Congress of the GSMD to have the new governor general, and all previous governor's general, sign the book. He then donated the book to the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, Ohio, with the stipulation that all future governors general could sign it. Both Cleveland Colony and Western Reserve Colony have hosted/co-hosted recent signings.

We commend Co-Editors Ann Gulbransen and Nancy Little for the wonderful job they do putting together the newsletter. Members from all of our colonies are welcome to submit articles and updates to Ann and Nancy on a regular basis and without Ann, Nancy and the contributions there would be no *Buckeye Mayflower*.

The SMDOH BOA has created a special recognition for those member who contribute articles, report, or updates to the Buckeye Mayflower. **We thank these individuals for "Keeping the Brewster Press Alive" in Ohio. This year members who contributed one or more times to the 2022 *Buckeye Mayflowers* will be recognized during the Annual Meeting on Saturday May 6, 2023.** Below is a list of those who will be recognized.



Cincinnati

Beth Anderson
Tim Calver
Nancy Little
Star Vondrell

Cleveland

Bob Coltrin
Dr. Elizabeth
Finley-Belgrad
Vicky Heineck
Donald Nichols

Columbus

Cheryl Bash
Charles Mays
Hilda Pappas

Toledo

Susan Fisher
Ed Trafford
Andrea Traunero

Western Reserve

Mandy Brooks
Terri Brown
Ann Gulbransen
Lee Martin
Jill Parker
Christina Schepis
Patricia Van
Norman
Becky Woodruff

COLONY CHRONICLES

Cincinnati Colony

Officers 2023

LT. GOVERNOR	STARLEYNE VONDRELL
HISTORIAN	SUE BRAY
DEPUTY GOVERNOR	NANCY LITTLE
RECORDING SECY	WANDA LANGDON
TREASURER	CLAY CRANDALL
ELDER	TODD REEL
CORRESPNDING SECY	NANCY LITTLE (OCTOBER 2022-NOV. 2023)
DEPUTY ELDER	KAREN WIGGINS
BOA REP	CAROL BYRD

Cincinnati Colony Officers have not met formally since November 5, Compact Day. We have been communicating via emails. Star Vondrell sent an email to officers concerning the elections November 2023. All positions are termed at this time. Inquiring who wants to stay on. Looking for members to fill open positions. The colony is in good order.

We have 189 members. Even though we have had a good year of new members, the drop rate has increased. Will work on getting reinstatements.

Our next meeting is April 15.

Compact Day is November 4, 2023. Location TBD.

Starleyne Vondrell, Lt. Governor

Cleveland Colony

Meetings: In 2023, the colony continues to hold four board of assistant's meetings via zoom and one annual in-person or zoom Spring business meeting.

2023 Spring Business Meeting: The annual Spring Business Meeting will be held Sunday March 19, 2023 1:30pm via zoom. The program will be *"Home Sweet Home: Settling the Western Reserve"* and the speaker will be Tonya Basic from the Lake County Historical Society. Topic overview: Before a beautiful landscape took shape in the Western Reserve, men with grit, guts and guile had to survey the rough and dangerous land. Hear the stories of the original surveyors and the hindrances they encountered, their unique negotiating tactics with Native Americans, and the names they went by that sound familiar even today. Additionally, the Cleveland Colony Officer's slate of Nominations will be elected and installed for the next term 2023 to 2026.

2023 Summer Event: No event.

2023 Compact Day: The annual Compact Day buffet luncheon event is scheduled to be held at the Lakewood Country Club located in Westlake, Ohio Saturday November 18, 2023. Our keynote speaker will be TBD. The new members from November 2022 to 2023 will be recognized. We plan to setup the table for the for state and colony

merchandise again since the sales collectively were \$225.00 last year. After the traditional passenger roll call, we will recognize the Veterans and thank them for their service and we will never forget. As always, Door prizes! More details to come!

Vicky Heineck, Lt. Governor

Columbus Colony

This will be my final report as Lt. Governor. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve the Columbus colony and attend the BOA meetings. Our new leadership will accept their positions following the voting at the April 1, 2023 annual meeting. Our ballot is: Lt. Governor, Charles Mays; Deputy Lt. Governor, Steven Kelley; Recording Secretary, Kristen Hallows; Corresponding Secretary, Hilda Pappas; Treasurer, Win Worcester; Elder, Rev. Carol Tong; Historian, Dr. Doris Rhea; Captain, Kenneth Smith; State BOA Representative, Jan Kleinline; Director, Sharon Hendershot (past Lt. Governor 2017-2020); Director, Hilda Pappas (immediate past Lt. Governor 2020-2023). We welcome 4 members on the ballot who have not previously held an office in our colony: Steven Kelley, Rev. Carol Tong, Dr. Doris Rhea, and Kenneth Smith.

We have 282 adult members in 48 Ohio counties, 28 states, 1 in Switzerland, and 1 in Italy. We have 1 active Military member. To keep in touch with all members we published a quarterly newsletter and posted on the Ohio website.

A pink bubble wrap envelope was mailed to each new member that contained: Welcome letter from our colony, Handbook, Welcome letter from our Ohio Society Governor (Jill Parker), and a colony pin.

We emailed Birthday and Christmas greetings using Jacquie Lawson ecards, to each member and snail mailed to those who didn't have an email address.

Our Elder, Cheryl Bash mailed Sympathy card(s) to a family member of a deceased colony member. Our Necrology Service is held annually in April. Cheryl reads the names of those who died, reads an appropriate passage, a flower is placed in a vase, and a candle is lit for each deceased member.

Our members graciously gave their time when our colony was hostess for the October 1-2, 2021 Ohio Mayflower Society annual meeting as we celebrated the 400th anniversary of the First Thanksgiving.

Matilda Davis-Northrup chairs our Jr. Membership Committee. Our Jr. Membership is age 0-17:169 and age 18-24: 66. To honor a member who was dedicated to our society and education of it, we renamed this committee to the Winifred Schamp Jr. Membership Committee. Winifred was our Lt. Governor from 1969-1975; and our state Society Governor from 1975-1918. She also held other positions at the colony level.

We have members who volunteered to distribute the Silver Books to: Bexley Public Library, Columbus Metropolitan Library, and Coshocton Public Library (Hilda Pappas), Marietta Public Library (Marie Nutter and Ginger O'Connor)

We publish and give to each member who attends our meetings (April and November) an updated colony directory using the most recent information in the DropBox.

Hilda Pappas, Columbus Colony Lt. Governor 2020-2023
Toledo Colony

Luncheon

Our spring luncheon is scheduled for April 15, 2023 at Swan Creek. Our speaker is Edmund Trafford, who present a "director's cut" of his presentation "The Pilgrims in History and Art" which he gave at last summer's annual SMDOH meeting here in Toledo, for the many Toledo members who were unable to attend the state meeting.

Scam Alert!

A NOTE OF CAUTION: we recent had an email scam circulate in Toledo Colony! It was supposed to have been issued by Judy Rand, our Deputy Lt. Governor, and asked for assistance in procuring some gift cards for use by veterans currently in hospice care. The expense was \$500, and "Judy" was going to reimburse the cost once the gift card numbers were forwarded to her. "Judy" was communicating by email because she had misplaced her mobile phone. THIS WAS A SCAM! A little bit of research showed that this same identical has been circulating for 2-3 years. It involves the head of a business, fraternal, or professional organization asking officers for help in purchasing gift cards for a charitable cause. The head of the organization was communicating by email because he had lost his mobile phone. Other recipients of this scam nationwide reported that evidently officers' names and personal email addresses were lifted from publicly available sources, like websites and newsletters! Perhaps think about using or establishing separate email specifically for Mayflower and other communications that is separate from the home or personal email.

Edmund Trafford, Membership Coordinator

Western Reserve Colony

The Western Reserve Colony is having fun and working hard on plans for our upcoming 125th Annual Meeting in May. In addition to the annual meeting, we are excited to convene as a colony for the first time in 2023 during our March 5th meeting at Chateau Michelle. We will be hearing from Richard Haldi, a local historian who will be conducting a presentation on the the time period during which NE Ohio was known as "Little Chicago."

The Western Reserve Colony is honored to host **The 125th Annual Society of Mayflower Descendants in Ohio** which will be held in Kent State University Hotel and Conference Center on May 5-6th, 2023. **We are excited to have a special keynote guest speaker Dr Scott Culpepper**, The Kent State University Hotel and Conference Center offers wonderful meeting amenities in the beautiful city of Kent, Ohio. We believe it will truly be a fun, informative gathering and sincerely hope every member of the Ohio Society will consider attending!

We are excited to offer a couple of opportunities for our fellow colonies and members to be involved:

- 1) We would like to recognize each Ohio colony by **inviting each colony to set up a display highlighting their colony and its history**. Each colony will have half of a table for their display. We hope every colony will participate! Please email wrcolonysmdoh@gmail.com and let us know if you are planning to have a display and we'll reserve your table space.
- 2) For the meeting **we will be producing a full-color program booklet** for attendees that will include the convention schedule, helpful information, and coupons from local businesses! **We are also offering space for colonies and/or members** to highlight members (past or present), colony highlights, or member-owned businesses. Ads start at \$15 for 1/4 page.

Send the Order Form and payment to
Lt. Governor Cindy Badger- Nichols
2718 Blue Ash Ave NW
Canton OH 44708

Please make checks payable to Western Reserve Colony SMDOH. Ad Copy Must Be Received No Later Than March 31st, 2023 for pricing purposes

Send any .pdf file or other electronic copy of completed ads to: wrcolonysmdoh@gmail.com

Cindy Nichols, Lt. Governor

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 1, 2023 - Columbus Colony Meeting

April 15, 2023 - Cincinnati Colony Spring Meeting

April 15, 2023 - Toledo Colony Spring Meeting

April 27-29 - Ohio Genealogical Society Conference, Kalahari Resort, Sandusky, OH

May 5-6 - Ohio Mayflower annual meeting, Kent State Hotel and Conference Center, Kent, OH

November 4, 2023 - Cincinnati Colony Compact Day

November 18, 2023 - Cleveland Colony Compact Day

Are you planning to attend the OGS Conference in Sandusky in April? Ohio Mayflower will have a table in the vendor hall. Please come by and say hello. If you would like to help, we would be happy to let you have a turn at the table. Please email Ann Gulbransen at historian@ohiomayflower.org to sign up for an hour or more. All you have to do is show your enthusiasm for the Society, let people look at the sample books on the table and give away copies of our marketing brochure and sign up forms.

Included in the envelope with your invitation to the state meeting is a ballot to vote for new officers and some changes to our Bylaws which have to be approved by the membership. The full text of the Bylaws changes can be found at www.ohiomayflower.org. A summary is below.

Summary of 2023 Bylaws Changes for approval by the SMDOH membership

In addition to formatting changes and language to match GSMD policies, the items below are the key changes. The entire document with additions and deletions is posted on www.ohiomayflower.org.

Article I, Duties of Officers

- *Deputy Governor – add responsibility for managing appointed and volunteer positions and facilitating special projects
- *Corresponding Secretary – added responsibility for arranging electronic meetings, removed responsibility for maintaining membership roster, clarified reporting and mailing tasks
- *Treasurer – clarified relationship with the finance committee and responsibility for budget draft

Article III – Board of Assistants, Section 4 – Committees

- *Clarified that appointed chairs of committees who are not already on the BOA become non-voting members
- *Finance Committee – Clarified that the treasurer is a member
- *Membership Committee – added responsibilities of an appointed Membership Coordinator which includes management of the membership roster and communication of membership changes to the GSMD Membership Manager and assisting the Historian and Deputy Historian with handling applicants.
- *Changed Communications to Publicity and added coordinating participation in conferences and conventions, e.g. OGS and Library book donations

Article IV – Colonies

Section 6 – reports – added that all colony treasurers must submit an annual report to the SMDOH treasurer so that data can be included in the annual tax return

Please Vote!

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We're on the Web!
www.ohiomayflower.org

Website updates

Have you checked out the updates at www.ohiomayflower.org? Sections of the history of each colony have been added along with a new Q&A document about the Ohio Society. Under the History section, the original articles of incorporation have been posted along with an article about the Great Book that resides at the Western Reserve Historical Society in University Circle. The 2023 scholarship winner has been announced and you can read his winning essay on the website. The Member Info section has a link to our donations page (all tax exempt), useful forms and will include a dues page when we begin collecting for 2024 membership year dues on August.

Moving? Changing your phone or email? Please send any changes to your contact information to membership@ohiomayflower.org. We will update the General Society for you.

Subscription Information

The Buckeye Mayflower newsletter is a benefit of your membership. You have a choice of a 16 page, electronic copy available on www.ohiomayflower.org with a quarterly email notification that a new issue has been published, or an 8 page very abbreviated, black and white paper copy mailed to your home. Both are no charge.

If you would prefer a 16 page black and white paper copy of the full newsletter mailed to your home, you need to subscribe to cover the additional printing and mailing costs. To subscribe, you must pay \$5.00 each year for 4 issues. You can subscribe when you pay your annual dues or at any time during the year. Send your \$5.00 to Treasurer Mary Chase at 7655 Isaac Drive, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130 to subscribe mid-year or go to www.ohiomayflower.org/newsletters to pay online.