



*Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the state of
Ohio*

Buckeye Mayflower

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio

www.ohiomayflower.org

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Vicky Heineck
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Eli McDaniel
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Hilda Pappas
Jill Parker
Edmund Trafford
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A Message from our Governor



The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the state of Ohio (SMDOH) had the distinct pleasure of hosting GSMD-Governor General Lisa Pennington for two events on May 16-17, 2025. On May 16th the Northeastern Colonies, Cleveland and Western Reserve, hosted Governor General Pennington at the *Western Reserve Historical Society Library* for her to sign the “Great Book” that was published by William Brewster’s Leyden Press in 1618. More information on the “Great Book” and how it came to Cleveland can be found on the Ohio Mayflower Web site (<https://ohiomayflower.org/history>). Planning of this event was led by Cleveland Colony Lt. Governor, Vicky Heineck and greatly appreciated by the Governor General. Please see the photos in this newsletter.

After a light breakfast, The Governor General, SMDOH Governor-Beth Anderson, and Cincinnati Colony Lt. Governor- Laurence Winters drove down I-71 to the Cincinnati area where the 2025 Annual SMDOH meeting was held at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason. The Governor General was treated to dinner at *The Golden Lamb* in Lebanon, OH, and then on to The Great Wolf Lodge for an evening meet and great reception featuring the instrumental folk music by the “New Pilgrims”. They are the children of Eric and Lisa McDaniel, members of the Western reserve Colony. The “New Pilgrims” got everyone’s toes tapping and hands clapping. You met these talented junior members first in the December 2024 newsletter.



On May 17th Governor General Pennington attended the Board of Assistants meeting followed by the opening session of the General Meeting. Governor Pennington presented an enlightening presentation on her Mayflower Ancestor, Isaac Allerton, *The Odyssey of Isaac Allerton*. At the SMDOH general meeting the Governor General read the Compact and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the seven junior members in attendance.

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CELEBRATING MEMBERSHIP

New Members, December 2024-May 2025

Cincinnati Colony

(Ann) Maris Bernard	11th from William Bradford
Paul George	13th from William Brewster
Trent Hart	12th from Stephen Hopkins
Tyler Hart	13th from Stephen Hopkins

Cleveland Colony

Travis Peebles	14th from Richard Warren
Denine Rukavina	13th from Degory Priest
Anne Shields	12th from Priscilla Mullins
Alden	

Columbus Colony

Austin Andrews	14th from William Bradford
Clayton Baldrige	12th from John Alden
Brian Fox	14th from Thomas Rogers
Virginia Kucan	12th from John Alden
Pamela Taylor	13th from William Brewster
Neal Clark	15th from Edward Fuller

Toledo Colony

Susan Daniels	14 th from William Brewster
Annette Hatfield	13 th from William Brewster
Anna Nichols	13th from William Bradford

Western Reserve Colony

Caren Keller	12th from John Howland
Daniel Kinsey	10th from John Alden
Linda Schilling	13th from William White

Welcome!

Supplementals Approved December 2024-May 2025

Cincinnati Colony

Georganne Woessner	12th from William Bradford
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Columbus Colony

Janice Adams	13th from Stephen Hopkins
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Toledo Colony

Kendra Pearce	15th from Edward Doty
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Western Reserve Colony

Lanese Nobbe	14th from William Brewster
Linda Ueland	13th from Richard Warren

Congratulations to all!

Watch your email for the 2026 dues payment announcement in late August through Constant Contact, our bulk email provider. The 2026 membership year will begin on November 1st.

Continued from page 1

The general meeting had reports from SMDOH Treasurer, Mary Chase, who reported on the contract signed for website renewal. The website contractor is a SMDOH member and has donated \$6000, half the cost as an in-kind donation that the organization greatly appreciates. A few of the benefits of the new website will be the opportunity to pay dues without Pay Pal, to reduce our dependence on the DropBox application for membership records, and others. We will keep you updated on the progress of this project. The new website will help us fulfill many of the goals of the Strategic plan. Treasurer Chase also reported on the over \$10,000 donation from Ohio members that SMDOH has forwarded to Plymouth for the Pilgrim Meeting House, and that Ohio will have recognition of these donations on pew seats and large and small leaves to recognize our Junior members on the entry wall. Historian Ann Gulbransen conducted the role call of families and this year it was the Howland -Tilley family that had the most attendees.

SMDOH did not award a scholarship this year. We received two applications that unfortunately did not meet the criteria. Heather Horton, Scholarship Chair, did announce a new effort to encourage Junior members to write for the Buckeye Mayflower. Please see the announcement and topic in this newsletter. Governor Beth Anderson gave a brief update on the Strategic plan. See the report elsewhere in this newsletter. Elder Cheryl Bash recognized members who had passed away over the last year.

Before lunch was served, time was allotted for photographs in front of the backdrop purchased for 2020 and used at State meetings since. The Governor General was very gracious in her posing with the multiple groups. After lunch the Governor General gave the keynote address, "*Lighting the Candle: Why We Must Tell the Pilgrim Story*", Focusing on the Pilgrim Meeting House. She also encouraged members to check out the Mayflower Society "You Tube" page for educational and historical videos ,and to sign up for the email delivered" Notes from the Boat".

I want to mention several other opportunities for SMDOH members. In the latest issue of the Mayflower Quarterly has information on the GBOA September Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Several tours are available, and the hotel is across the street from the River Walk and Alamo! In September of 2026 there is the GSMD Triennial Congress, in Plymouth. Ohio has qualified for multiple delegates at this meeting and SMDOH has budgeted for members to attend. This is a great time to not only visit Plymouth at a beautiful time of the year but to learn how our organization functions. We will be sharing more about this meeting and opportunities for our members. Ohio is one of the larger state membership groups and we would really like to see many of our members in attendance.

In the next year SMDOH will be looking for officers at the state level. Please consider serving the Society in an official capacity. I often hear in various groups how it's "always the same people in the leadership roles". Why do you think that is? One reason is that other people don't step up to run. If you are interested at all please contact me with your questions at mayflowergovernorohio@gmail.com. I would be happy to chat with you about available opportunities at the state or colony levels.

Finally, The General Society of Mayflower Descendants is sponsoring an on-line "Silent Auction" and has asked the state Societies to sponsor a donation. Ohio is sending a Longaberger picnic basket donated by the Lt. Governor of Columbus Colony, Charles Mays. SMDOH colonies have added two books signed by Ohio author and potential SMDOH member Katheryn Brewster Haueisen; "Mayflower Chronicles: The Tale of Two Cultures", and "Mary Brewster's Love Life: Matriarch of the Mayflower". The "Mayflower Maize Game" bingo like game and a 1620 stress rock have been donated by the Western Reserve Colony. Also included is a copy of the 2021 SMDOH cookbook, and Buckeye candies donated by Cleveland Colony.

I am writing this on a chilly but sunny Memorial Day weekend, and as we honor our military veterans let's keep in mind our ancestors who fought in the colonial, Revolutionary, and Civil wars so we could live in a free country. Have a Great Summer!

Beth Anderson, Governor – SMDOH, Cincinnati Colony

What does it mean to be a Colony /State Meeting Attendee?

Jill Parker, Past Governor, Western Reserve Colony

Our membership roster today is not unlike the “Mayflower” survivor list of around 1630. Various age groups, skill levels, interests, and definitely different stages of well-being (i.e. health issues). In attending meetings and interacting with my “cousins” I realize that our “roles” are really more valuable than our “titles”. Our ancestors were all important – and so are we!

So what Roles are we fulfilling at the Colony or State level? The Roles change over the years as our life situations change. As many of you know my health, like many others, is not great. Fatigue and Pain are with me daily and while meds help with the pain, I have yet to find any help for the fatigue. While I would like to help more, perhaps even hold an office, I know this is not fair to me or to you, my “cousins”. So I have embraced roles that are temporary, flexible and designed to be a “helper” or “assistant” rather than a title holder.

I feel that to be the best “member/attendee” I can be, my Colony and State leaders need to be aware of my situation – capabilities and restrictions. And I also volunteer where I know I might be able to help. At any given meeting I can help with registration, sales table, greeter, and socializing. I have been fortunate that our leaders welcome my participation and the participation of others no matter what our restrictions. I feel the more individuals who are able to be greeters and to socialize with others, the better we are as a Colony. Do I remember everyone’s name? No. But that is OK. And, some of our Attendees are applicants (hopefully future members) and some are what we call “Friends” (these could be spouses, neighbors, members of other organizations, etc).

I have noticed in the last couple of years that we are welcoming “helpers” with or without titles...like greeter or assistant greeter. Personally I think this is a good thing. I also think that the role of ATTENDEE is as important as any other role. No one is “just” an Attendee. As an attendee I can listen, talk, smile and ask questions. Bottom line - Thank you for your role in the Mayflower Society – it might be “titled/elected” or it might be a volunteer / attendee. I thank you all!!! You are each valuable to our wonderful organization. I hope to see you soon! Those who are able to serve in an officer capacity, I encourage you to do so – you will get LOTS of help from others in the Society...some will ask if you need help an, of course, you can always ask for help. Thank you all for attending, helping and participating as you are able!!

Deputy Historian Terri Brown gave a presentation for the Trumbull Co Genealogical Society at the Howland library branch in Warren on 5/13/2025, Her presentation included lots of detail on submitting a lineage society application and how to use the Mayflower Silver

Books. That library has a partial collection of the books and will be added to our schedule for completion in the future. Terri brought a selection of the books to demonstrate.



Here are some images from the event courtesy of Brent Durken.

In Loving Remembrance

Cleveland Colony

- 85245/3194 Lois Rezie, descendant of John Alden, born 12/25/1942, died 1/12/2025, elected 12/29/2012
- 31971/1285 Kathleen Kosmala, descendant of William Bradford, born 3/8/1949, died 1/14/2025, elected 3/1/1969

Columbus Colony

- 60699/2347 Virginia Ress, descendant of William White, born 4/18/1933, died 3/26/2025, elected 5/13/1994
- 80261/2984 Helen Lucinda Barton, descendant of William White, born 2/21/1944, died 4/23/2025, elected 3/6/2009

Toledo Colony

- 64047/2466 Clarabelle Bothe, descendant of Edward Fuller born 8/19/1924, died 10/17/2023, elected 10/11/1997

Western Reserve Colony

- 100286/3908 Alan Lemuel MacCracken, descendant of William Brewster, born 11/20/1939, died 5/23/2025, elected 7/9/2021
- 68311/2620 Edwin Leroy Wallace, descendant of William White, born 0/10/1939, died 5/23/2025, elected 10/14/2000

Deaths of former members

Columbus Colony

- 58322/2429 David Robert Rudy descendant of Deggory Priest, born 10/19/1934, died 5/19/2025, elected 5/11/1996,

Toledo Colony

- 84931/3181 Mary-Ann Funkhouse, descendant of William Brewster born 7/7/1943, died 3/14/2020, elected 10/2/2012
- 90707/3492 Marilyn Willey, descendant of Stephen Hopkins, born 3/18/1919, died 12/9/2021, elected 11/17/2016
- 84275/3160 Richard Hayes, descendant of Richard Warren, born 6/24/1934, died 12/23/2023, elected 3/30/2012

New Junior Members, December 2024-May 2025



Cincinnati Colony

- *Declan Viner, descendant of Stephen Hopkins, Sponsored by Great grandmother Beth Anderson

Cleveland Colony

- *Jeremiah Young, descendant of John Alden, Sponsored by Grandmother Dr. Elizabeth Finley-Belgrad
- *Landon Sheldon, descendant of William Brewster, Sponsored by Grandmother Susan Chamberlain

Columbus Colony

- *Eden Kempf, descendant of Francis Cooke, Sponsored by Great Aunt Janice Kline
- *Ivy Kempf, descendant of Francis Cooke, Sponsored by Great Aunt Janice Kline
- *Weston Kempf, descendant of Francis Cooke, Sponsored by Great Aunt Janice Kline
- *Olivia Taylor, descendant of William Brewster, Sponsored by Grandmother Pamela Taylor

SCHOLARSHIP

SMDOH is pleased to announce the first Junior Essay Award! The topic was "If a Mayflower passenger came to visit you for a day, what would you show them?"

We congratulate Eli McDaniel on his essay on Miles Standish for which he has won \$100! We are now looking for entries for the fall newsletter, with a deadline of September 1st.

The submission should be about 250 words, double spaced in 12 point Times New Roman font. Entries should be submitted electronically.

The Fall 2025 topic will be "What Mayflower passenger would you like to have dinner with and why, and what would you like to ask him or her?"

Please send entries as an attachment in an email to SMDOHedu@hlhorton.org with a subject line: Juniors Essay Competition

In your email, please include your Name, Age, Grade, School (or homeschooled), Contact email, and Contact phone number.

Here is Eli's winning essay:

This is what I would show Miles Standish if he spent a day with me in 2025:

First, I would show him the fridge. I am sure that he would be amazed at how much food we can keep without it spoiling. Next, I would show him modern rifles. Since he was a soldier, he would definitely want to try them out. He probably would want to go hunting with them, but I would explain that you cannot just go hunting around houses and people.

By then it would be lunchtime, so I would show him how the stove and the toaster work to prepare food. He would be shocked at how easily we can cook! After lunch I would take him to see modern ships and planes. He would marvel at their size, wonder when people stopped using wood to build ships, and be really curious about "These amazing flying machines!" as he might call them.

The last thing I would show him would be all the musical instruments we own. I would play him an instrument or two and he would enjoy them. He may become a little overwhelmed because Pilgrims did not typically use instruments and music in general was very restricted for them.

At some point I'm sure he would wonder what year it was. I would tell him, "It's about 405 years after you arrived in Plymouth." At the end of the day, I think he would say, "Well, 2025 is a magnificent time." That would be my day with Miles Standish.

Eli McDaniel

Strategic Plan Update

The Goals of the SMDOH Strategic Plan are all directly pulled from our constitution.

Goal #1- Mentoring for future leadership roles- when I meet with Colony groups and am asked to say a few words, I focus on new member involvement and need to get new blood in the leadership positions. I explain how they will be supported by the past leaders in their roles.

Goal #2- Junior member involvement – The 2025 annual meeting was planned to include opportunities for our junior members- they are the future of the Mayflower Society. Plans are in place to have a quarterly opportunity for junior members to have an article in the Buckeye Newsletter as identified by the Scholarship Committee. Concerns that we are not getting interest in the SMDOH Scholarship are being addressed with this opportunity. Hilda Pappas has done a terrific Job with her role as Junior Coordinator for the state.

#3- Increased involvement in GSMD events and committees- SMDOH has donated to date \$11,296 to the Mayflower Meeting House project allowing us to have our names on pews and leaves. In 2024, two of the State officers attend the GBOA in Ashville, NC. In September 2025, three of the officers will be attending the GBOA meeting in San Antonio, TX - Governor, Deputy Governor, and Treasurer. SMDOH Junior Coordinator Hilda Pappas has been in frequent communication with the GSMD Junior Leader. SMDOH is also participating in the Silent Auction Initiative to raise funds for the meeting house.

#4- Improving effectiveness of meetings- This goal is moving slower than hoped for a variety of reasons beyond anyone's control. But it will be a focus for the coming year. The state BOA meetings are held on ZOOM, thus saving time and expense for the BOA members and improving access for the members.

#5- Maintain membership, support and interest- In what I have observed this is being done at the meetings and events I have attended.

#6- Increase involvement of SMDOH- BOA in state colony events- Colony events are advertised in the *Buckeye Mayflower* and email invitations are sent to all BOA members.

#7 Speakers Group- Presently the governor is keeping a list of speakers the goal is that a member will be interested in maintaining this list.

#8 Member engagement with the use of "Social media"- Presently this is being left up to the colonies. BUT SMDOH has engaged a company to do a complete revision of the SMDOH website in the next 12 months . Keep your eyes open for more information in the newsletter,

GSMD - ARTICLES – MAYFLOWER QUARTERLY:

I track the Ohio Society's articles published in the Mayflower Quarterly (news from the Societies section), making sure all Mayflower Societies have a chance to read about Ohio's activities.

Ohio has had a total of 31 articles published since Spring 2016, thru Spring 2025. Indiana has the 2nd most articles for the same time frame – 21. SMDOH is proud of our leadership in getting articles published in the MQ publication. This leadership in being published is a testimony to the dedication of our Governors who have been diligent about submitting updates to the MQ. If you have an idea for an article for Ohio to submit, please let SMDOH Gov. Beth Anderson know.

Jill Parker, Immediate Past Governor, Western Reserve Colony

Great Book Signing

The 2025 Great Book Signing Friday May 16, 2025 was held at the Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Blvd Cleveland, Ohio honoring Governor General Lisa Pennington. Ann Sindelar, Library Reference Supervisor at the Cleveland History center, gave the "Great Book Signing" presentation. The event is co-hosted by the Northeast Cleveland Colony and Western Reserve Colony. The state board and the two colony boards received an invitation to attend the event. Assorted pastries plus coffee, juice and water were provided.

The volume, called the Great Book was printed by William Brewster in Leiden Holland in 1618. The short title is Confutation of the Rhemists. The book had belonged to the library of Christ's College, Cambridge, and bears their Bookplate. It was subsequently acquired by John Pearson of Cleveland. Pearson was a well-known book collector and an active member of the Cleveland Colony of Mayflower Descendants. In the 1940s Pearson conceived the idea of taking this book to the triennial meeting of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and of asking for former and newly elected Governors General to sign the blank page in the front of the book. The first signature on the page is from the Addison Pierce Munroe whose term began in 1924. John Pearson donated the book to the Western Reserve Historical Society and more recent Governors General have traveled to Cleveland to sign the book.



In recent years, six Governors General have traveled to Cleveland to sign the book.

In 2014, Judith Swan and Bruce McGunnigle came together to sign the book.



In 2017, Leah Filson came to Cleveland to sign the book.



In 2019, George Garmany came to Ohio and spoke at both the Cleveland and Western Reserve Colony Compact Day gatherings in addition to signing the book.



In 2024, Jane Hirt visited Ohio to speak at our annual assembly and to sign the book, with adult and junior members witnessing her signature.

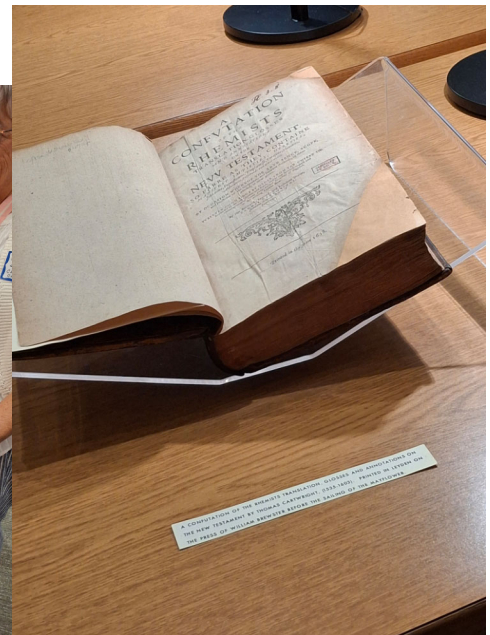


This year, 2025, Governor General Lisa Pennington came to Ohio to speak at our annual assembly and to sign the book with representatives from the Cleveland, Western Reserve and Cincinnati Colonies in attendance.

Cleveland Colony member (and professional photographer) Brent Durken has posted a gallery of images from the morning that can be viewed at this link:

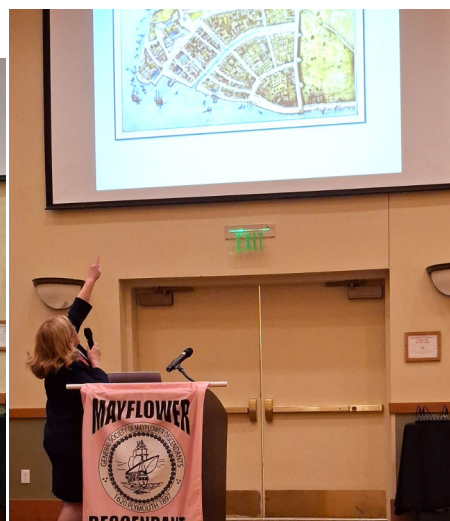
<https://6thcity.smugmug.com/Great-Book-Signing-2025/n-F9WGcC>

Annual Assembly 2025



Introducing The New Pilgrims, children of Lisa & Eric McDaniel, Listen to the performance here:

<https://youtu.be/15s0d0atZa8>



COLONY CHRONICLES

Cincinnati Colony

The Cincinnati Colony has experienced a productive and engaging year, marked by new appointments, successful events, and continued growth in membership.

Colony Leadership Updates

Laurence Winters has stepped in as the Lieutenant Governor of the Colony. He has been instrumental in organizing both the 2025 State Meeting and the Compact Day celebration. We are also pleased to welcome Andy Cook as our new Historian. Andy has already contributed meaningfully by assisting with the 2024 Compact Day Luncheon. Additionally, Beth Anderson has accepted the position of Junior Membership Coordinator, bringing fresh energy to the role.

2024 Compact Day Luncheon

Our annual Compact Day Buffet Luncheon was held on November 2, 2024, at the RSVP Event Center. The event was attended by 64 adults and 10 children, who enjoyed good food, warm fellowship, and a compelling historical program.

Guest speaker John Burke, of Burke's Living History, presented an engaging and well-researched account of the first Thanksgiving shared by the Wampanoag Indians and the Pilgrims in 1621 at Plymouth, Massachusetts. Attendee feedback was overwhelmingly positive, making this one of our most appreciated programs in recent years.



New Member Inductions

We were proud to welcome and install 11 new members into the Cincinnati Colony: Zeb Acuff, Lois

Cocanougher, Andy Cook, Kathryn Dierckes, Lee Emrick, Gerry Hrenko, Lisa Luecke, Joe Macke, Michael Poterek, and Georganne Woessner.



2025 Annual SMDOH Meeting Planning

Much time has been spent planning and organizing the 2025 SMDOH annual meeting. Cincinnati has been honored to serve as the host colony again.

The Cincinnati Colony looks forward to another year of meaningful engagement, historical reflection, and continued growth. 2025 marks the 90th anniversary of the Cincinnati Colony, Celebration plans to be announced

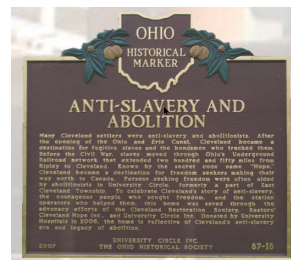
Laurence Winters, Lt. Governor

Cleveland Colony

2025 Meetings: In 2025, the colony will continue to hold four board of assistant's meetings via zoom and one annual in-person or zoom Spring business meeting.

2025 Spring Event: The 2025 Spring Meeting was held Sunday April 06, 2025 at 1:30pm at the Dunham Tavern 6709 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio. The business meeting was held in the barn and the program was a guided-tour in the tavern museum. The event parking was free and light refreshments plus coffee boxes and water were provided. The invitation was sent to Cleveland colony members by February 14, 2025. The invitations were sent electronically via Constant Contact to members with email addresses and members without email addresses were mailed out via USPS. The invitation was sent to current preliminary and pending members.

2025 Summer Event: The 2025 Summer event is targeted for Saturday June 21, 2025 with a tour at the Cleveland University Circle's Cozad-Bates House Museum located at 11508 Mayfield Road, Cleveland, Ohio followed by lunch in Cleveland's Little Italy at the Trattoria restaurant 12207 Mayfield Road. The historical house is the oldest surviving pre-Civil War structure in the University Circle Cleveland, Ohio. Also, known for the involvement in the underground railroad network. The tour is free and parking will be at the Transplant House of Cleveland. The invitation was sent to Cleveland colony members electronically via Constant Contact to members with email addresses and members without email addresses were mailed out via USPS. Also, the invitation was sent to current preliminary and pending members.



2025 Compact Day Dinner: The 405th Mayflower Compact Day and 95th Cleveland Colony Dinner buffet luncheon event will be held at the Lakewood Country Club located in Westlake, Ohio Saturday November 08, 2025. We will offer zoom availability with Leanne McGann as our zoom manager again. Our Keynote speaker will be Kathryn Hauelsen. She has published two historical fictions about our beloved ancestors. *Mayflower Chronicles: The Tale of Two Cultures* gives a lot of the background of events in England that drove our ancestors to Holland for a decade and then on to the *Mayflower*. It includes a section from the perspective of the Indigenous peoples of New England and the first encounters between the two groups. *Mary Brewster's Love Life: Matriarch of the Mayflower* is a fictional biography of Elder William's wife and the other women she traveled with on her journey. It is part fictional diary and her recounting her life to one of her daughters toward the end of her long life. As always, the passenger family surname roll call will take place. We will recognize new members and the memorial service will be presented by our colony elder Dr. Don Nichols. We will recognize Veterans and thank them for their service and we will never forget. As always, we will open the invitation to other historical organizations. We will send the invitation electronically via Constant Contact to members with email addresses and members without email addresses will be mailed out via USPS. The event will be posted on the Ohio Mayflower website under CLE Colony tab event section. The invitation will be sent to current preliminary and pending members. Door prizes will close the meeting!

Vicky Heineck, Lt. Governor Cleveland Colony, SMDOH

Columbus Colony

I am happy to report that Kathryn Brewster Hauelsen accepted our invitation as speaker for our Spring Luncheon. Her subject, "Wives of the Mayflower"

We had our annual Necrology Service to remember those who have died since our last Spring Gathering.

Venue:

Heritage Golf Club
3525 Heritage Club Drive
Hilliard, OH 43026

Save the Date:

You are invited by: The Columbus Colony to the 128th Annual State Mayflower Assembly Day, May 15-16, 2026, at the Columbus Airport Marriott, 1375 N Cassady Avenue, 43219.

A big thank you to all the Columbus Colony Officers for ensuring our Spring Luncheon went smoothly.

Charles Mays, Lt Governor, Columbus Colony, SMDOH

Toledo Colony

Meetings: In 2024, the Colony held Board of Assistants meetings in person following our luncheon events. Regular meetings followed our Saturday, 13 April 2024 Spring Luncheon Gathering, and our Compact Day luncheon on Saturday, 16 November 2024. In 2025. In-person Toledo BOA meetings will follow our 29 March 2025 Spring Luncheon Gathering and 1 November Compact Day Luncheon, with additional meetings and group communications as required.

2025 Spring Luncheon: This event took place Saturday, 29 March 2025. Our speaker for the luncheon was Ms. Jacqueline Konwinski, president of the Toledo Polish Genealogical Society. She spoke on the Polish presence in America during the Revolutionary War.

2025 Summer Event: This event will take place on Saturday, 28 June 2025, with lunch in Bryan, Ohio, at Seasons Coffee & Bistro on Bryan Square followed by a visit to the Williams County Public Library for a presentation on Ellis Island by the Local History and Genealogy Manager, Jared Schnee. The Library is the recipient of Silver Books donated periodically by SMDOH through the Toledo Colony.

2025 Compact Day: This event is scheduled for Saturday, 1 November 2025. Our speaker will be Chris Gillcrist from the National Great Lakes Museum in Toledo who will present a talk on the War of 1812 on Lake Erie.



Newsletter: The “Toledo Colony Chronicle” Winter 2025 issue was released in December 2024. It carried a summary of highlights from the November Compact Day Gathering, and information about the Spring and Summer Toledo Colony events. Our Summer 2025 issue will be released following our Summer Gathering in Bryan, Ohio and will carry information about that event and an invitation to our Compact Day Gathering in November.

Edmund Trafford, Lt. Governor, Toledo Colony, SMDOH

Western Reserve Colony

The Western Reserve Colony proudly maintains 189 dues-paying members. We have welcomed 1 new member so far this year. Currently, David Burnham our colony Historian is helping nine active applicants in various stages of the membership process. This continued interest demonstrates strong engagement with our Colony and a growing appreciation for our shared heritage.

Eric McDaniel BOA Representative planned and hosted a genealogical expo event for our March meeting; it was a resounding success. We were honored to be joined by 12 other societies and organizations, all of whom contributed to a dynamic and informative gathering. Public attendance was strong, with approximately 45 attendees from the general public, in addition to participants from the attending groups. We are pleased to report that feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing interest in the Mayflower Society and in genealogy more broadly. Several organizations noted the presence of potential new members, highlighting the Expo’s value as both an educational and recruiting opportunity.

We warmly invite all members and guests to participate in our upcoming gatherings: June 14 – Western Reserve Picnic Our June gathering will be held in Kent, Ohio, and will once again take the form of an outdoor picnic. We hope for improved weather this year to better enjoy outdoor activities and camaraderie.

September 14 – September Meeting We will convene at the historic Spread Eagle Tavern & Inn in Hanoverton, Ohio. This meeting will offer insights into the rich local history and the role of eastern Ohio in the Underground Railroad, providing both a meaningful and educational experience.

November 9 – Compact Day Our annual Compact Day celebration will take place at the Canton Women's Club, a tradition we are proud to continue as we reflect on the legacy of the Mayflower Pilgrims.



In other news (permit the author to brag) we are excited to welcome our youngest member as our Lt Governor Cindy Nichols and her husband applicant Brian Nichols welcomed a baby girl Evelyn Lee Nichols this past Jan. We thank all our cousins and friends for their continued support and involvement. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events as we honor our ancestors and grow our community.

Cindy Nichols, Lt. Governor

Genealogy Mystery books

Do you like to read? Last year, I published an article about some of my favorite genealogy mystery books. I am a voracious reader and started reading mystery books as a teenager. I cut my mystery teeth on the likes of Arthur Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie, Ellery Queen and many more. My dad was a mystery fan so this was something we could share. I don't think he had discovered his Mayflower roots at that time, or if he had, he did not share that fact.

Of course there are plenty of books covering Mayflower history and other periods of early American history, but have you explored the wonderful world of genealogy mystery books? If you are on Facebook, there is a group called [Genealogical Crime Mystery Book Club](#) that is worth being a part of to learn about new books. There are new books being reviewed constantly. Any of these will keep you entertained for many hours.

Here are a couple of my favorite authors and series:

Nathan Dylan Goodwin <https://www.nathandylangoodwin.com/>

Nathan is an English author so many of the the research repositories he writes about are unique to England but the techniques apply anywhere. A few of his books are based in the US so there is always something to learn from him.

* Forensic Genealogist Series – start with the prequel *The Asylum* and then *Hiding in the Past*. *The main character is a genealogist named Morton Farrier. The newest book in the series is number 10 (The Deserter's Tale) and the next one is in the works*

*Venator Cold Case Series (genetic genealogy)– start with *The Chester Creek Murder*. *This company is based in Salt Lake City and includes great detail on how they use DNA in their work.. The third book in the series, The Hollywood Strangler is out now.*

M. K. Jones <https://mkjonesauthor.com/>

*Maze Investigation Series – start with *Three Times Removed*. *Mary has recently published two new books in this series, Clamhanger Row and The Diamond Eaters. There is a bit of paranormal content in the earliest books.*

*The Curiosity Club Series – start with *All Gone*. *The most recent book in the series is 9 am Dog.*

John Nixon

*Madeline Porter series – start with *Family Shadows*. *There are 9 books in the series. John died in 2023 so there will be no more.*

M. J. Lee <http://www.writermjlee.com/>

*Jayne Sinclair Series – start with *The Irish Inheritance*. *The newest book in the series is The Salford Sioux about siblings who believed their family never left England but found Native American ancestry in DNA test results.*

M. J. Lee also writes other crime thrillers including the DI Ridpath books about an English police officer.

Wendy Percival <https://www.wendypercival.co.uk/>

* Esme Quentin series – start with *Blood Ties*. *Go to her website and you can download a free copy of the prequel for the series Legacy of Guilt.*

Steve Robinson

* Jefferson Tayte Series – start with *In the Blood*

Beth Farrar <https://bethfarrar.com/>

*Ellie McLellan mystery series. Start with *Family Secrets*.

You can find these in bookstores and if you are a Kindle reader, many are available in Kindle Unlimited. Just don't blame me when you get lost in these engaging stories and ignore the rest of your to-do lists!

Ann Gulbransen, Historian, book addict

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 21, 2025 - Cleveland Colony summer gathering at the Cozad-Bates House Museum

June 28, 2025 - Toledo Colony gathering in Bryan, OH

September 20, 2025 - Western Reserve Colony gathering at the Spread Eagle Tavern followed by a Silver Book donation at the Youngstown Library

November 1, 2025 - Toledo Colony Compact Day

November 8, 2025 - Cleveland Colony Compact Day. Lakewood Country Club

November 9, 2025 - Western Reserve Colony Compact Day, Canton Women's Club

November 2025 - Cincinnati Colony Compact Day, date TBD

November 2025 - Columbus Colony Compact Day, date TBD

April 29-May 2, 2026, Ohio Genealogical Society Conference, Sharonville, OH

May 15-16, 2026, Annual Assembly, Columbus Airport Marriott

Junior Membership

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Ohio Mayflower Society Jr. Membership Coordinator.

I will be unable to continue to be the state Jr. Membership Coordinator for the 2026-2029 administration. Therefore, please start contacting members who may have an interest to take over this position. An ideal member would be a parent or sponsor of a Jr. Member. It would be a disappointment if no one steps forward for this very essential position to have contact with our Jr. Members on an ongoing basis.

For a prospective on the Jr. Membership numbers:

colony	adult members	Jr. Members		
		0-17	18-24	Totals
Cincinnati	209	66	27	93
Cleveland	183	43	52	95
Columbus	279	135	102	237
Toledo	83	23	24	47
Western Reserve	191	70	63	133
Totals	945	337	268	605

Jr. Member new applications to date: 4-11-2024 thru 4-20-2025 – 15

I would like to thank our colony Jr. Membership chairs

Cincinnati.....Beth Anderson

Cleveland.....Larry Hoyt

Columbus.....Matilda Davis-Northrup

Toledo.....Andrea Traunero

Western Reserve....Cindy Nichols

I continue to send a monthly email to each colony Jr. Membership chair and their list of Jr. Members as indicated above. These are articles that can be forwarded to their Jr. Members.

New Jr. Membership packet includes: Certificate in blue certificate folder, Mayflower Compact, Origins of Pilgrims printed on parchment paper. Welcome letter, ancestor profile, recommended books and resources printed on 20# wt. paper, bookmark, a clear report cover with sliding bar so they can keep any information emailed to them. These were mailed in a rigid envelope to Jr. Member listed address.

Hilda Pappas, Junior Membership Coordinator, Columbus Colony

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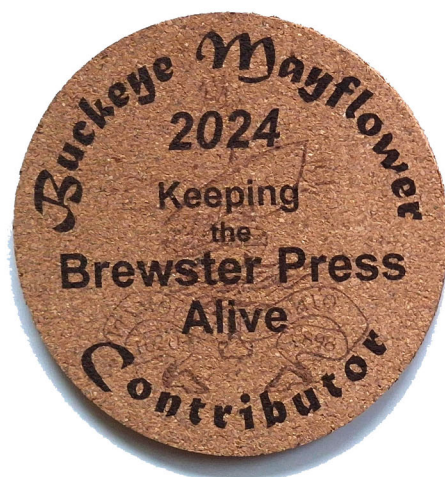
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Commemorative coasters from the Annual Assembly. The Brewster Press award (left) is for members who contributed articles to the Buckeye Mayflower newsletter in the last calendar year. The Great Book coaster (right) was given to those members who attended the 2025 book signing with Governor General Lisa Pennington.

Subscription Information

The Buckeye Mayflower newsletter is a benefit of your membership. This 16 page, electronic copy is available on www.ohiomayflower.org with a quarterly email notification that a new issue has been published at no charge. Past issues are also available to read.

If you would prefer a black and white paper copy of the full newsletter mailed to your home, you need to subscribe to cover the printing and mailing costs. To subscribe, you must pay \$8.00 each year for 4 issues. You can subscribe when you pay your annual dues or at any time during the year. Send your \$8.00 to Treasurer Mary Chase, 7655 Isaac Drive Middleburg Heights, OH 44130 to subscribe mid-year or subscribe at www.ohiomayflower.org/newsletters to pay online.