



*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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Elizabeth Finley-Belgrad
Ann Gulbransen
Vicky Heineck
Eric McDaniel
Mary McDaniel
Cindy Nichols
Jill Parker
Hilda Pappas
Edmund Trafford
Laurence Winters

A Message from our Governor



I had the opportunity to attend the Mayflower General Board of Assistants (GBOA) meeting in San Antonio, Texas on September 4-7. It was my first chance to attend a GBOA meeting and I am glad I went. It was great to spend time with 4 of our BOA members and to interact and meet with members from around the country. I wanted to give you a summary of what Governor General Pennington presented at the general business meeting. She discussed the efficiencies that have been achieved and presently underway:

- Rightsized and reorganized the Research Center- They have provided genealogists to help members and potential members in their research efforts on Mayflower Lines. This is helping potential members break down Brick walls. After the surge of applications prior to 2020, the applications have slowed down and as a result they have corrected the staff for the present needs.
- Converted to electronic handing of applications and fees.
- Digitization of the application process for historians is continuing, including indexing of previous applications. This will improve the efficiency of the application process for the historians.
- Working with Mayflower Quarterly staff to streamline content and printing. What this means is more interesting content in the Mayflower Quarterly and business minutes and financial information will be available on the GSMD website under the members only tab.
- Lowered staffing costs with the use of volunteers as docents and inputting recent applications.
- A team has been formed to screen new items for sale to ensure profitability.
- Upgrading facilities to lower future maintenance costs for the Library and Mayflower House.
- Put temporarily unused cash balances into interest-bearing sweep accounts.

The Governor General also shared Actions for success to educate the public and members on The Mayflower Story.

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BOARD OF ASSISTANTS IN THE STATE OF OHIO

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CELEBRATING MEMBERSHIP**Membership milestones March 2025-August 2025****Cincinnati Colony**

James Morrison - 65 yrs

Peter Galbraith - 55 yrs

David Hughes - 55 yrs

Dorothy Leik - 35 yrs

Maria Berry - 35 yrs

Charles Parkinson - 25 yrs

Marc Parkinson - 25 yrs

Laura Klaine - 25 yrs

Roy Allen - 25 yrs

Joseph Mosher - 25 yrs

Emily Todd - 15 yrs

Sue Copley - 15 yrs

Roger Stevenson - 20 yrs

Alison Brooks - 15 yrs

Christina Twardowski - 15 yrs

Donald Burgess - 15 yrs

Toledo Colony

William Waldock - 35 yrs

Robert Waldock - 35 yrs

Richard Dunkelberger - 30 yrs

Diane Dunkelberger - 30 yrs

Bobbie Krause - 20 yrs

Jeffrey Stoll - 20 yrs

Judy Rand - 20 yrs

Cleveland Colony

Roger Clark - 50 yrs

Andrew Gondelman - 45 years

Robert Voltz - 35 yrs

Cynthia Schlett - 35 yrs

Columbus Colony

Suzanne Coen - 70 yrs

Kathleen Perry - 50 yrs

Lisa Miller - 50 Yrs

Lesley Stavola - 35 yrs

Craig Gerhart - 35 yrs

Gary Macmann - 25 yrs

Patti Albaugh - 20 yrs

Western Reserve Colony

Margaret Lauritzen - 45 years

James Rasnik - 35 yrs

John Rasnik - 35 yrs

Robert Rasnik - 35 yrs

Susan Brouse - 20 yrs

Robert Fackler - 20 yrs

Roberta Dodd - 20 yrs

Julia Hesse - 20 yrs

Edward Gould - 20 yrs

Christopher Karman - 20 yrs

Kay Johnston - 20 yrs

Jennifer Osvath - 15 yrs

Junior Membership



**Ohio Society Junior Member Coordinator for
April 2026-April 2029**

It's been my pleasure serving as the Ohio Society Jr. Membership Coordinator for the 2023-2026 administration.

It is time that I move on and "pass the torch" to an interested member who would like to coordinate information to email each colony Jr. Membership Chair who in turn notifies their Jr. Members or parent/ sponsor.

Please consider volunteering for this position.

- (1) Have a love for our history to pass onto our Jr. Members
- (2) Be creative in communicating information to colony Jr. Membership Chairs
- (3) Receive Jr. Membership applications
- (4) Mail Welcome packet, including Certificate, to each new Jr. Member
- (5) Maintain Jr. Member continuous numbering system
- (6) Notify the SMDOH Historian with new Jr. Membership information

"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future"

John F. Kennedy

Hilda Pappas
GSMD
Jr. Membership Committee Member
OH Society
Junior Membership Coordinator 2023-2026

Annual members

If you have not yet paid your 2026 dues, now is the time. Go to www.ohiomayflower.org/dues to download the dues statement or to pay online. Your payment is due by 1 November 2025. If we do not have your payment by 26 December 2025 or you will be dropped from membership.

If you have already made your payment, thank you for renewing your membership. We are looking forward to another year of fellowship with you.

Junior Essay Competition

Congratulations to Mary McDaniel for her winning Junior essay on Mary Brewster for which she has won \$100. The topic was **“What Mayflower passenger would you like to have dinner with and why, and what would you like to ask him or her?”** Thanks to everyone who entered. We had many excellent entries.

We are now looking for entries for the winter newsletter, with a deadline of November 15th. The submission should be about 250 words, double spaced in 12 point Times New Roman font. Entries should be submitted electronically. The competition is open to Ohio Mayflower Junior Members in grades 5-12.

The Winter 2025 topic will be “Pretend you will be a passenger on the Mayflower. Because there are so many people in such a small space, you can only take items that will fit in a 12 inch by 12 inch by 12 inch cube. What would you bring?”

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.

Dinner with a Mayflower Passenger

Mary McDaniel, Western Reserve Colony

If I had the chance to enjoy a dinner with a Mayflower passenger, I would choose to sit down and eat with Mary Brewster. I am most interested in her! Not only do we share the same first name, but she also intrigues me because of the fact that she was one of only five women to survive the first winter after the Pilgrims arrived in Plymouth. She was also present at the first Thanksgiving!

I would have many, many questions to ask Mary Brewster, such as “What was the Mayflower like?” I wonder if it smelled bad. I imagine that it was smelly. I am also curious if the trip was cold because it was on the ocean or maybe it was hot because there were so many people on it. I would imagine that it was cramped, too.

I would also ask Mary what was it like when the Pilgrims first arrived in Plymouth. I bet they were very curious. Being in a strange new world was probably exciting but also scary. I wonder what they really thought of it.

I wonder what the first Thanksgiving was like. I would ask Mary for more details about the event than what typically learn today. Did she like the food the Indians shared? Was it really the huge feast we learn about? How was she able to talk to the Indians? I believe that there is a lot that I could learn from Mary Brewster!

5 November 1605-An Important Date in English History

In the Fall 2025 issue of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*, an article by editor Doug Blake relates a brief history of the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. As the event is still remembered each year in England on 5 November as “Guy Fawkes Night” or “Bonfire Night”, I would like to share an old poem I found on You Tube concerning this event.

“Remember, remember the fifth of November,
Gunpowder, treason and plot.
We see no reason
Why gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot!
Guy Fawkes, Guy Fawkes, t’was his intent
To blow up king and parliament.
Three score barrels were laid below
To prove old England’s overthrow.
By God’s mercy he was catch’d
With a darkened lantern and burning match.
So, holler boys, holler boys, let the bells ring.
Holler boys, holler boys, God save the king.
And what shall we do with him?
Burn him!”

Cheryl Bash, Ohio Society Elder, Columbus Colony

Private Sale

Elizabeth Warren, age 11, daughter of Richard Warren & Elizabeth Walker.

Made exclusively for Plimoth Patuxet by Mary Michaud

\$70 (no charge for shipping, if necessary)

Contact Terri Brown

myancestree@roadrunner.com



Elizabethan England and the Birth of Spiery

I have long held a fascination for English history, particularly with the Tudor and early Stuart eras, in part because the lives of my pilgrim ancestors were contemporaneous with this period in English history. I have read several non-fiction books as well as fictional ones concerning the period. One of the most fascinating aspects of this time was the religious and political upheavals between Catholic and Protestant factions as the adherents of each faith sought control of crown and country. The struggle originated with King Henry VIII's political break from the pope and the Catholic Church in 1534.

One of the most dangerous periods during the Tudor era was the reign of Henry's daughter, Elizabeth I, who had been excommunicated by Pope Pius V on 25 February 1570. The papal bull declared her a heretic and deposed her from the throne of England. This papal bull was meant to incite Catholic rebellion and in the following decades, at least seven plots to assassinate the queen were detected and stopped by her principal secretary, William Cecil. The queen's life was at risk not only from Catholic plotters in England but also from foreign nationals all over Catholic Europe, particularly Spain, some of whom conspired with aristocratic English Catholics.

With the increasing probability of violence against the queen, Cecil handpicked Sir Francis Walsingham as his right-hand man to join him in the responsibility of protecting the queen by engaging in "spiery", a now obsolete word which referred to the act of spying or the practice of espionage. The development of their spy network and the intelligence they gained as a result is truly fascinating.

If you share an interest in this aspect of English history, I can highly recommend an intriguing documentary on this subject which is entitled *Queen Elizabeth's Secret Agents: The Rise of the First Secret Service*. This documentary also addresses the Babington Plot, which led to the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, and the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. This program, which was produced by the BBC and broadcast on PBS, is still available for purchase on Amazon. com. You may also be able to find it on Amazon Prime.

Cheryl Bash, Ohio Society Elder, Columbus Colony

Opportunities for Finding Potential Members

I had the honor of being a 4-H judge at the Franklin County Fair with the 4-H Around the World and Genealogy projects. It was a great opportunity to talk about the Mayflower Society to those that think they may or may not qualify for membership. So, when the subject of family history comes up, don't hesitate to mention the Mayflower Society. Some think that their family history is limited to the male lines or the last 3-4 generations. This isn't true. Encourage more research and help us build membership.

Sandy St. Martin, Past Governor

Reports from GBOA

Attending a General Board of Assistants Meeting (GBOA) is always an informative and fun opportunity to interact with members of the Mayflower Society from other Member Societies. Did you know that we no longer call our societies "States" anymore? That is because we have Societies from Canada, Australia, and Europe.

In addition to the networking opportunity, the General Society (GSMD) offers an afternoon of forums – I attended the Technology, Historian and Treasurer forums. In the Technology session, Chairs Chris Schlosser and Allie Golon showed us the strides gained in the indexing of member applications, the work that has been done to establish resources for Historians called "One Source" and the behind-the-scenes verification that is being done to ensure the ancestors researched are accurate. Members from the Silver Books research team were at this forum to answer questions.

Bart Hensen, Treasurer General, led the Treasurer forum. Due to the varied sizes of each Member Society, the way a Society manages their dues collection process, the management of their member databases, and what software, if any, varies. Since the Ohio Society is in the process of evaluating our processes, this session was interesting. We have new topics for the next Executive Board Meeting.

The meeting on Saturday was informative with reports given and awards presented. At the banquet that night, Blaine Bettinger, a genealogist with an extensive background using DNA was the featured keynote speaker. Since our hotel, the Historic Hotel Menger, is across the street from the Alamo, Governor General, Lisa Pennington, told us of three Mayflower descendants who died during the siege.

If you have not considered attending a GBOA meeting, I encourage you to consider coming to the next one, which is the Triennial Congress in September 2026. It will be in Plymouth, Massachusetts. In addition to Mayflower Society meetings, you will have a wonderful opportunity to visit the Mayflower Headquarters, the Pilgrim Museum, the Plymouth Meetinghouse and of course, you cannot come to Plymouth without seeing the Plymouth Rock! Next year is an election year. Due to Ohio's membership size, it is possible to have a considerable number of delegates. If you want to be a delegate (and even if you just want to attend as a member), inform your Colony Lt. Governor to ensure your inclusion on the credentials form.

Mary Chase, State Treasurer, Cleveland Colony

A First-Time Attendee's Perspective on the GSMD GBOA Annual Assembly

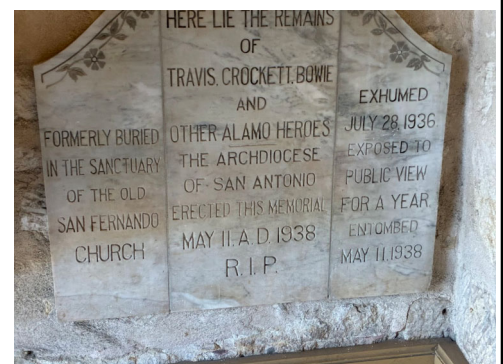
This September, I had the honor and privilege of attending my very first General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) General Board of Assistants (GBOA) Annual Assembly, held this year in historic San Antonio, Texas. Representing the Ohio Society, especially the Cincinnati Colony as Lt. Governor, was an experience I will never forget.

From the moment I arrived, I felt a deep sense of connection to our shared Mayflower heritage. The first day began with open forum sessions for both historians and treasurers, which I attended. These sessions were fascinating, offering a behind the scenes look at how our Society preserves the stories of our Pilgrim ancestors and manages the resources that keep our mission strong.

Friday brought tours of San Antonio's historic Missions. Walking through these centuries old sites reminded me of the importance of preserving history, just as we preserve the stories of the Pilgrims who came to America. Meeting fellow descendants from across the country during these tours was inspiring. It was wonderful to hear about the work being done in other colonies and societies. The evening concluded with a lively opening reception, where the energy and camaraderie were contagious.

Saturday was the official meeting day, featuring updates from GSMD officers and committees, discussions about proposed bylaw changes, and important business for the future of the Society. It was truly meaningful to be in the room and witness how we are honoring and sharing our Mayflower story and preserving it for generations to come.

A special highlight for me was spending time with three of our Ohio Society officers (Beth, Mary and Betsie), deepening our bonds and



sharing ideas for our state society and colonies. It was also a joy to see GSMD Governor General Lisa Pennington again, after her visit to Cincinnati earlier this year for our Annual Meeting. Watching her lead with such dedication and vision reminded me how fortunate we are to have such strong leadership guiding GSMD.

I left San Antonio feeling more connected than ever to our Pilgrim ancestors. To their courage in crossing the Atlantic aboard the Mayflower in 1620, to their perseverance through the first harsh winter, and to their commitment to building a community rooted in faith and hope. Attending GBOA was a powerful reminder that we, as descendants, carry that legacy forward through our service, our storytelling, and our stewardship of history.

Representing Ohio and Cincinnati at GBOA was an incredible honor. I am already looking forward to next year, when the General Congress will convene in Plymouth and to walk in the very place where our ancestors stepped ashore over 400 years ago. I encourage every member to attend if possible.

Laurence Winters, Lt Governor, Cincinnati Colony

GBOA – San Antonio, TX, 9/4 - 9/7 2025

What a pleasure it was to represent the Ohio Society at another GBOA meeting. The Ohio Society's delegation — spanning from a 55-year veteran to a first-time attendee — demonstrated the strength and diversity of experiences and perspectives in our state. This was reflected within formal sessions and during informal interactions with other delegates across the country.



This year, we traveled to San Antonio, TX. This was my first time in San Antonio so when there were no meetings to attend, I toured the Alamo and traversed

the River Walk. Being able to have lunch at the Rain Forest Café excited this attendee. These experiences reflect the balance between the responsibilities of representing Ohio and the opportunity to experience new adventures. Knowing this might encourage you to attend.

The forums were informative, as usual, reflecting the updates concerning the Mayflower Society – the streamlined application process and the Treasurer's prudent financial management – reflect the Society's commitment to evolving while remaining steadfast in its mission. The Society has made great strides in moving into the twenty-first century while maintaining the history of our home in Plymouth and our envied place among other societies.

The best part of attending the GBOA is representing OHIO. I believe it is important to put front and center the great achievements of the Ohio Society. Bragging rights of our Silver Books donations, the new efforts of actively including our Junior Members, the wealth of information in our newsletter, the projects of our colonies, were shared at every opportunity. While talking with the former Governor Generals, they all mentioned that the highlight of their term was the trip to Ohio to sign "the book."

Connecting with old friends and meeting new ones is always the highlight of my travels. I hope you consider coming to Plymouth next September. It could be a family outing or an individual adventure. Connect with history, community, and shared heritage in such a historically significant place as Plymouth helps you reflect on the courage and legacy of your ancestor. Visit the "rock" and the Mayflower home and gardens. Come and represent OH - IO!



Betsie Gricar, Deputy Governor, Columbus Colony

Elections for the 2026-2028 Term

Our Society thrives on our mutual love of history, our heritage and the dedication members - and we need your help! We are looking for volunteers to serve on either your local Colony board or the Ohio State board. These roles are essential for keeping our society strong, our events meaningful, and our heritage alive.

Not sure what each role involves? Here's a quick look at the positions:

- **Governor** – Represents the Society at state and national levels. Leads all meetings & sets agendas.
- **Deputy Governor** – Supports the Governor and assumes duties when needed
- **Recording Secretary** – Keeps accurate records of board and executive committee meetings.
- **Corresponding Secretary** – Coordinates meeting logistics, manages official correspondence, welcomes new members.
- **Treasurer** – Oversees all financial operations including dues, disbursements, reporting, audits.
- **Historian** – Reviews lineage documentation for new applicants, manages membership records.
- **Deputy Historian** – Assists the Historian with tasks and record keeping.
- **Elder** – Provides spiritual support at events and meetings; must be a member or leader of a Christian church.
- **Captain** – Manages ceremonial duties, flags, and Society property.
- **Surgeon** – A licensed healthcare professional who supports the Society as needed.
- **Counselor** – A licensed attorney providing legal advice, supporting compliance, and serving as the statutory agent for the Society.

Each Colony also has a Lieutenant Governor, Deputy Lieutenant Governor, Historian, Treasurer, and Board of Assistants Representative. Each of these positions have a similar role as noted above, but focus on helping your local Colony provide services and events.

Whether you have experience in leadership, communications, or simply an interest in our shared heritage, there is a place for you to help and contribute. Serving on a board is a wonderful way to connect with fellow cousins, preserve our Pilgrim legacy, and to help guide the Society forward for future generations and our descendants.

If you are interested in learning more or would like to get involved, please reach out to your local Colony leadership or me. See page 2 for a current listing of the members who have volunteered for these important positions.

Eric S. McDaniel eric.s.mcdaniel@hotmail.com

Western Reserve Colony Board of Assistants Representative
2025-26 Nominating Committee Chairman

COLONY CHRONICLES

Cincinnati Colony

Colony Leadership Updates

At this time, we are actively seeking to fill two important leadership roles: Deputy Lieutenant Governor and Deputy Historian. We welcome nominations or expressions of interest from members who feel called to serve in these vital positions.

2025 Annual SMDOH Meeting

It was a true honor for the Cincinnati Colony to host the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio on May 16–17, 2025, at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio. The event had over 58 registered attendees, 5 participating vendors, and several enthusiastic juniors joining in on the festivities. We were especially blessed to enjoy live music from The McDaniel Kids, whose performance added joy and inspiration to the gathering. We were deeply honored to welcome GSMD Governor General Lisa Pennington as our keynote speaker. Her presence and message were highlights of the weekend, and we cherished the opportunity to spend time with her. This event would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of Beth Anderson and Wanda Langdon, to whom we extend our heartfelt thanks.

2025 Compact Day Luncheon

Planning is underway for the 2025 Compact Day Luncheon on November 8th, and we look forward to sharing more details with you very soon. The Colony is already hard at work to ensure a meaningful, educational, and festive event to commemorate this important date in our shared history.

Laurence Winters, Lt. Governor

Cleveland Colony

2025 Silver Books Presentation Events:

Cleveland colony Assistant Historian Bob Coltrin gave a Silver Book presentation at the Morley Library located in Painesville, Ohio on April 10, 2025. He developed a PowerPoint presentation starting with the Mayflower journey and ended why we honor our Mayflower ancestors. Bob explained the Silver Book history and described the family naming system. He used one of his ancestors as an example and followed up with how to apply for the Mayflower applications and answered questions.

Cleveland colony Assistant Historian Brent Durkin joined Deputy Historian Terri Brown and David Burnham at the Trumbull County Genealogical Society meeting located at the Howland Branch Library Warren, Ohio on May 13, 2025. Terri developed a PowerPoint presentation starting with the Silver Books and ended with the Mayflower application process.

2025 Summer Event: The 2025 Summer event was 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 Roman Garden 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 was free and parking was at the Transplant House of Cleveland. We were happy with the colony interest and attendance since we our last summer event was in 2019 due to 2020 COVID. The weather was perfect and the Italian food was enjoyed by all.

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. Door prizes will close the meeting!

2026 Summer Event: The 2026 Summer event is targeted for a June Pancake Breakfast fund raiser for The 103rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Civil War Museum which includes a tour located at 5501 E. Lake Road Sheffield, Ohio. At this point, the event date is TBD. The 103rd OVI Memorial Foundation is dedicated to perpetuating the heroic deeds and services of the men who served in 103rd Regiment during the Civil War. It was originally built by the veterans themselves to serve as a barracks during the reunions. In the 1970's this structure was completely restored and became the permanent home for the museum and artifacts. The Museum bordering Lake Erie is a historical landmark.

Vicky Heineck, Lt. Governor

Columbus Colony

Columbus Colony Compact Day

Saturday October 25, 2025

11:30 - Heritage Golf Club, 3525 Heritage Club Drive, Hilliard, OH 43026

Ohio Mayflower Society State Assembly Weekend

Host: Columbus Colony

May 15-16, 2026

Airport Marriott, 1375 N. Cassady Ave., Columbus, OH 43219

Hilda Pappas, Columbus Colony

Toledo Colony

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 took 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 Christopher Gillcrist, Director Emeritus of 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 was released in June 2025 following our Summer Gathering in Bryan, Ohio and carried information about that event and an invitation to our Compact Day Gathering in November. Copies of our Toledo newsletter were emailed to all SMDOH BOA members and can be read on www.ohiomayflower.org.

Edmund Trafford, Lt Governor

Western Reserve Colony

Despite another rainy day, we had a great picnic on June 14th in Kent, OH. About 20 members gathered for food and fellowship coordinated by Deputy Lt. Governor Marilyn Sessions and her husband. Who knew that they have cooked barbecue competitively! We are hoping for better weather in 2026.

We're excited to share details for our next colony meeting, which promises to be both educational and enjoyable. Our historian, David Burnham, has arranged a wonderful gathering for Saturday, September 20, 2025, at the historic Spread Eagle Tavern in Hanoverton, Ohio.

The day will begin with check-in and lunch orders at 11:00 AM, giving everyone a chance to settle in and connect with one another. At 11:30 AM, we'll enjoy a fascinating presentation on "The Local Underground Railroad," a story of courage and resilience that shaped our region's history.

Following the presentation, lunch will be served at 12:30 PM, where we can continue our conversations in the beautiful setting of the tavern.

For those who want to extend the day, we have arranged an optional afternoon trip to the Youngstown Public Library at 3:00 PM, where there will be a special presentation on the Silver Books.

We look forward to gathering together, learning, and celebrating our shared history. We hope to see many of you on September 20!

Looking Ahead – Compact Day We're also thrilled to announce that our Compact Day celebration will take place on Sunday, November 9, 2025, at the Historic Canton Women's Club. More details will follow soon, but please mark your calendars for this special occasion.

Cindy Nichols, Lt Governor

Continued from page 1

- Increasing the number of speeches and videos to increase excitement around the Mayflower Meetinghouse project.
- The Executive Committee's new 'Free Will' project in its first eight months has brought future pledges to \$6,000,000 for bequests.
- GSMD Member Societies have stepped up and are giving up to \$5000 for the Meetinghouse project. Ohio has contributed more the \$5000.
- New high demand shop items from GSMD and Member Societies are being sold to benefit the Mayflower Meetinghouse.
- The executive Committee has hired a fundraising organization located in Boston to assist them in strategizing ways to access resources from other philanthropic groups.
- Final stages for the present phase of the Meetinghouse project should be completed by the 2026 GSMD Congress in Plymouth.
- She also mentioned a project led by Member-at- Large, Beth Lambright from Oregon on videos that can be used in classrooms and member meetings to tell the Mayflower Story.

I am excited to plan to attend the 2026 Congress in early September of 2026. Keep an eye out for more information in the Mayflower Quarterly and our Buckeye Mayflower on how you can attend as a Delegate. Delegates are determined by the number of active members in each state. Ohio will have many opportunities and if you attend as a delegate and attend all the necessary meetings you can get some reimbursement for attending. SMDOH would like to have a large presence for 2026.



Just a word on the SMDOH new website progress. The project team from the BOA met on September 11th with our web designer the new website should go live this week!. We are really excited about the opportunities this will provide for the Ohio Society and our efficiencies.

One last important item is nominations for state officers for the 2026–2029-time frame. Opportunities are open in all the leadership positions. One of my goals for my term was to encourage members to step up to leadership roles in your colonies and for the State. SMDOH Nominating Committee chair Eric McDaniel is not only looking for members to be on his committees he is looking for members who want to step into leadership. If you are interested or CURIOUS about how this process works, please contact Eric at eric.s.mcdaniel@hotmail.com. If you know a member in your colony who has as skill set that can help at any level contact your Colony Lt. Governor, Eric or me at mayflowergovernorohio@gmail.com. Believe me when I say SMDOH present and past leadership will support you in any role you are interested in. Nominate yourself, it's fine, no need to be a shrinking PILGRIM.

Beth Anderson, Governor, The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio

Share what you like from your Mayflower readings: Mayflower Quarterly and Buckeye Mayflower

I invite you to do more than just read our wonderful primary publications. Share your favorite articles and look for ideas you would like to bring back to the Ohio Society or your Colony. Have you been intrigued by an article about holding a meeting at a particular historic site or memorial – not necessarily Pilgrim related? Is there a historic site in your Colony area that might be a good location for a Colony Event? Is there a history instructor at a college near you that would make an excellent presenter? Is there a way you could partner with another colony in a shared event. (Cleveland and Western Reserve Colonies do this when the Governor General comes to Ohio to sign the famous “Great Book”).

Maybe an event that features “old” recipes that our ancestors might have enjoyed. A sort of buffet / smorgasbord of items to sample, along with recipes (using today’s ingredients) so individuals know before hand what they are sampling.

Which state/region article of the MQ did you find most interesting. Share what you find interesting with your cousins at your next Colony gathering. Have some fun doing this!

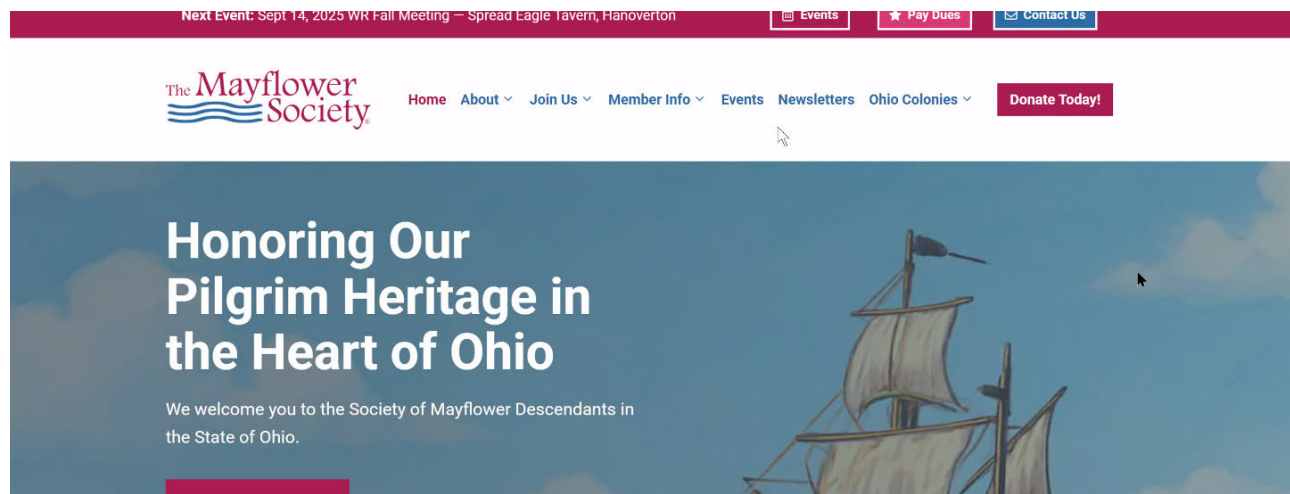
Jill Parker, Past Governor, Western Reserve Colony

New ohiomayflower.org website!!

Columbus Colony member Tony Gricar and his company TargetLocal LLC has been working for the last few months to build an updated website for ohiomayflower.org. It will go live very soon!

This new site has all the features you have been using on the site including newsletters, forms and the ability to pay your dues and make donations. Note: in 2026, we will be moving to a different payment vendor which will be good news for those who have had issues with PayPal. Many of the functions of the old site have been streamlined.

Here is a teaser screenshot from the new site!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 25 2025—Columbus Colony Compact Day, Heritage Golf Club, Hilliard

November 1, 2025 - Toledo Colony Compact Day

November 8, 2025 – Cincinnati 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

April 29-May 2 2025 - Ohio Genealogical Society Conference, Sharonville Convention Center, Sharonville, OH

May 15-16, 2026 - 128th Annual State Mayflower Assembly Day, Columbus Airport Marriott

Surgeon's Corner

Hot Weather Tips

- **Hydration is Key:**
Drink plenty of fluids, even if you don't feel thirsty, and avoid sugary drinks, alcohol, and caffeine as they can dehydrate you.
- **Stay Cool:**
Seek air-conditioned spaces as much as possible, and if you don't have access, consider cooling centers or spending time in public places like libraries or malls.
- **Limit Outdoor Activity:**
Avoid strenuous activities, especially during the hottest part of the day (usually 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.).
- **Dress Appropriately:**
Wear lightweight, light-colored, and loose-fitting clothing to help your body regulate temperature.
- **Protect Yourself from the Sun:**
Wear sunscreen, a wide-brimmed hat, and sunglasses when outdoors.
- **Check on Vulnerable Individuals:**
Stay in touch with elderly relatives, neighbors, and those with pre-existing health conditions who are more susceptible to heat-related illnesses.
- **Never Leave People or Pets in Cars:**
Temperatures inside a parked car can rise rapidly, even with the windows cracked.

Elizabeth Finley-Belgrad, MD, Surgeon

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