



# California Mayflower Quarterly

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*2023 California Mayflower Society Membership Meeting*

*June 2023, Emeryville, California*

*Photo Credit: Thia Markson*

**Opportunity Drawing for “Paintings” by Billie Mitchell**

Billie Mitchell, Orange County Colony, has donated two Mayflower original art paintings to be used for an opportunity drawing to benefit the California State Society scholarships. At the Membership Meeting in June, tickets were sold for an opportunity to be one of two winners of a painting. All the funds for the opportunity drawing will go towards our California Mayflower State Scholarship. Last year the amounts of the scholarship were increased. As the newly appointed Scholarship Chair, Billie wants to ensure that those amounts are available when the winners are announced. Each ticket for the drawing is \$10.00 or three for \$20.00. If you would like to make a larger donation than \$100, say \$200, please copy the tickets below and we will enter 12 tickets in the drawing. Please make your check payable to: “The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of California Inc” and send it to our State Treasurer, Harvey Soldan. (Harvey Soldan, Treasurer, PO Box 1088, Glendora, CA 91740-1088). Please fill out each ticket you would like to purchase with your Name, Address and Phone number you can best be reached at ON EACH TICKET and submit the appropriate number of tickets with your donation (1 for \$10.00, 3 for \$20.00, up to 15 for \$100). Please submit the ticket(s) WITH YOUR PAYMENT. Please print clearly so we can read your entry. We will have the official drawing at our upcoming State Board of Assistants Meeting on October 21st in Santa Ana. You do not need to be present to win, but a completed ticket is required, so that we can contact you and arrange to send you a painting. Two winners will be drawn.



**OPPORTUNITY DRAWING for ORIGINAL ART**  
 \$10 per ticket (3/\$20). All funds go to State Scholarship Fund.  
 Drawing held at October 2023 BOA Meeting (10/21/2023)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Colony) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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(original paintings donated by Mayflower artist Billie Mitchell)

## Outgoing Governor's Message

This will be my final report for the Quarterly, as Governor. As I turn over the gavel and Governorship of this great Society, I want to say thank you! Thank you to all of you who supported us these last two years. When we began in 2021, we were still in the throes of the "Covid Pandemic".

Who could have imagined after we rode that wave of the Rose Parade Float on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 in Pasadena, that we'd be locked down for a couple years? As an aside, several of us Float Rider Alumni attended our Membership Meeting in Emeryville on June 17<sup>th</sup> - Former Governor General, George Garmany; DGG, Ray Raser; State Advisor, Marcia Maloney; Foothill Colony Governor, Carole Curran, and myself.

But in June 2021, many were still fearful about the future and what the "new normal" would look like. Now, in 2023, we are pretty much back to some sort of normal. The "new normal" is one where we are just more careful and aware. If someone starts coughing, we immediately take a few steps away. We let everyone know, "It's ok to not come over or attend meetings, if you're sick. Stay home and get well."

This last quarter, I attended the swearing in ceremonies of the elections of a couple Southern California Colonies.

First, I was invited by the *Inland Empire Colony* to swear in the new board of Pamela Mikkelsen. She took over the reins from former Governor, Susan Christopher. We also heard a great presentation from Donna A. Watkins, the author of "*Diverse Gashes: Governor William Bradford, Alice Bishop, and the Murder of Martha Clarke, Plymouth Colony 1648*". What an interesting story about the murder of Martha Clark in 1648 and how Governor Bradford had to conduct the trial. Donna is also the author of "*Weaker Vessels: The Women and Children of the Plymouth Colony.*"



*Newly elected Santa Barbara Colony Board – Behind on Screen: L-R: Colony Membership Chair, Tami Wilkening, Recording Secretary, Ruth Jackson, Deputy Governor, Leslie Lechner, and Treasurer, Ray Garrett. In front: L-R: State Governor, Scott Miller, Colony Elder, Marj Friestad, and Colony Governor, Jay Williams.*

I was then invited by the *Santa Barbara Colony* to present my video of the Bradford History, "*An Accidental Find Leads to a Monumental Discovery – God's Providence in the Return of the Bradford Journal*". It was well received. Then they had their election and I was honored to swear in the new board of the Colony. Jay Williams was elected the new Governor. What was unique about this was that half of the Colony met up on the Central Coast area and the other half in Santa Barbara, a couple hours south. You can see in the picture the whole board, with former Governor, now Colony Treasurer, Ray Garrett and the Board members of the northern end of the Colony on the Zoom call, behind Governor, Jay Williams, Marj Friestad and me.

At our Membership Meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>, we had about 52 attendees in the room, at the Hilton Garden Inn, in Emeryville. There were also about 6 to 7 attendees via Zoom. We voted on several Bylaws updates and Standing Rules. Most notably, for our newest Members, they are now considered paid through the next year, if they have joined after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, we adjusted when a member is considered delinquent for paying annual dues.



*Newly elected Inland Empire Colony Board - L-R: Colony Elder, Carol Marderosian, Recording Secretary, Sarah Schiller, Treasurer, Susan Christopher, Colony Governor, Pam Mikkelsen, State Governor, Scott Miller.*



For everyone, please make a special note, you must be paid by January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, in order to not be delinquent. Dues collection season will begin in September and run through December 31<sup>st</sup> each year. The new date for being dropped from the California Mayflower Society is now January 31<sup>st</sup>. This is because we have to pay the GSMD dues for all active members by early February.

Former Governor General, Dr. George Garmany, honored us with his presence at all of the meetings on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. At the Membership Meeting, he gave a very interesting presentation titled, “*New England Captivities – Terrorism at the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.*” Whew! Those were rough days trying establish this country. But, having another country pay the native tribes to cause mayhem, added deeper complication to the already complicated relationships between the settlers and native tribes. (You’ll have to hear the presentation to know which other country was sticking their fingers into things).

Now, I have turned over the reins of the California Mayflower Society to our new Governor, Kathy Watson. Since the beginning of my term in June 2021, we have accomplished so much for the California Mayflower Society. I wanted to remind you of a few things we did, which I believe will put us on a solid foundation for the future.

Right when we started, we received the results of the Audit Committee from the previous Administration. The results of the committee came with specific recommendations. Several of the key ones we started to work on right away:

- 1) First, with the help of our former Investment Chair, Former Governor General, Judy Swan, we developed a comprehensive Investment Policy. This was adopted in October 2021. This serves as a guide for us to manage our investments in a protected and wise manner, to provide us the monthly income for our Oakland Library and will help us support our Life Member Dues annually that we pay the GSMD.
- 2) We formed an Investment Committee, comprised of four appointed members, in staggered four-year terms. It has been led so magnificently by John McNeill, the Governor of the Redwood Empire Colony. Other members on the Committee are Lorraine Kocen, former Governor, now Elder of the Rancho Conejo Colony, Joseph Morehead, of the Mother Lode Colony, and the newest member, Milton Greenway, of the Inland Empire Colony. The State Treasurer, Harvey Soldan, sits on the committee as an *ex officio* member, representing the Executive Board. All are serving your Society so well. During these tumultuous times, they have worked with our Investment Manager to keep us protected, as much as possible, from the volatility. In October, Kathy will appoint those serving two-year terms currently, to four-year terms.
- 3) Next, we did something that seems so self-evident now, given our huge size – we found a professional CPA firm to handle our Federal and State Taxes! This is crucial for us, because we need to remain compliant with all Federal IRS laws regarding our non-profit status. Having a professional company do it protects us and will keep us in line for the long term.
- 4) One of the tasks I delegated to, now former Deputy Governor North, Kathy Watson, was to help us create and launch a Bequest Program, we call “Leaving a Legacy”. This was a project I had been thinking about for several years to help fund the organization. It is operational and we are already accepting bequests.



*Thanking Former Governor General, Dr. George Garmany, for his great presentation and swearing in of the newly elected State Executive Board.  
L-R: Past State Governor and DGG, Scott Miller, FGG, Dr. George Garmany, and newly elected CA State Governor, Kathy Watson.*



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We are able to receive in-kind donations, as well as cash donations from estates. All funds will be applied to our many projects and enable us to do so much more to support our educational charter. If you would like to put the California Mayflower Society in your Estate Plan, please speak with your colony Governor or Kathy Watson to get the information. You can also get the information from the State website: <https://www.camayflower.org/leave-a-legacy.html>. When you do fill out the forms, you will become an honored “One Small Candle Legacy Member” of the California Mayflower Society and will receive a specially made pin to wear proudly in Colony and State meetings.

5) We are (almost) done with our new combined Society database, that is designed to streamline the process of managing all prospective and active members of the Society in one system. This will enable our Historian, Membership Secretary and Treasurer to work off of the same database. Imagine three different systems managing over 2600 members...it is so much wasted time trying to align three systems, not to mention the complication of having 14 Colonies using different systems. The goal is to have everyone, including the Colonies, manage their finances and members using the same database. Wouldn't that be so nice? Our Technology Chair, Richard Grogan, is busily working on it and it will soon be launched.

6) In 2023, we increased our State Scholarship amounts by \$500 each and added a 4th place winner. This year the 2024 fourth place \$1000 scholarship will be designated as the “David Grinnell Memorial Scholarship,” since the Inland Empire Colony gave the State Scholarship Fund a generous \$1000 donation in David's name. He served our State Society and the Inland Empire Colony for years and will be greatly missed by us all.

7) There's so much more, from Bylaws updates to “going electronic” on our new member applications to Plymouth, a program really led and advocated for by Mandy Dunkle, our State Historian – this has really streamlined and simplified the process for all of the Member Societies in the GSMD. Thanks Mandy!

Well, though there's so much more, I want to say “thank you” to my Appointed Board of Assistants members and my Executive Board, all of whom served the State Society so ably and with dedication this last term. First, I'll start with my Appointed Members of the BOA. I cannot put into words how much I've appreciated your being a part of my Administration. Here is the list of all of my Appointed BOA Members and Chairs: (I gave Certificates of Appreciation to each of them at our Membership Meeting in Emeryville on June 17<sup>th</sup>.)

State Captain – **Miles Standish**; State Parliamentarian – **Marston Watson**; California Mayflower Quarterly Co-Chairs – **Ray and Gail Raser**; State Society Office Manager – **Nancy Lucchese**; State Librarian – **Diane Sweeny**; State Surgeon – **Dr. Matthew Bowdish**; State Jr. Membership Chair – **Amy Conboy**; State Scholarship Committee Chair – **Larry Beston**; State Investment Chair – **John McNeill**; State Technology Chair – **Richard Grogan**; State Public Relations Chair – **Jane Ordway Carmen**

Finally, I would like to thank my Executive Board. In my estimation, we were one solid, productive team. I am so impressed by the dedication and professionalism each of you exhibited these last two years. There was no ranker or bickering or fighting – really, it was one of the best teams I've ever been a part of. You helped make these last two years a joy.

*Pictured Left to Right):*

State Historian –  
**Mandy Dunkle;**  
State Treasurer –  
**Harvey Soldan**  
Deputy Governor  
North –  
**Kathy Watson;**  
Deputy Governor  
South – **Dr. Robert  
Lincoln**



State Secretary – **Billie Mitchell;** State Counselor – **Erica Hahn;** State Advisor, Nominating Committee Chair and PR Co-Chair – **Marcia Maloney;** GBOA Deputy Governor General – **Ray Raser;** State Governor – **Scott Miller;** (Not pictured): State Membership Secretary – **Kim Pike;** State Elder & PR Co-Chair – **Tawny Welch**

As I wrap up everything for my term, I want to reiterate how appreciative I am for the trust and support you, the members of the California Mayflower Society, gave me these last two years. In my opinion, the state of the California Mayflower Society is solid and poised for even greater things. The incoming Board is going to represent you well and you are in great hands with newly elected Governor Kathy Watson! I will continue on the Board and Board of Assistants as the *State Advisor*, also as a *Past Governor for Life*, like all other Past Governors who came before me, and as the *Deputy Governor General* (DGG), representing the State in the General Society Congress and Board of Assistants (GBOA) meetings. So, I'm not going anywhere and I look forward to the next two years working in Kathy Watson's Administration.

*Scott A. Miller,  
Past State Governor*

### Incoming Governor's Message

Pilgrim Brothers and Sisters: Greetings to all the members of the California Mayflower Society. Just two short weeks ago I was elected as your Governor. I am humbled yet overjoyed at this wonderful opportunity to lead a great team of Mayflower descendants. This Mayflower ship has sailed, and my hope is at the end of our journey we will look back having reached the right destination for our Society.

Let me introduce myself to you as your new Governor. You might have heard my name, Kathy Watson, associated with other lineage societies such as DAR, DAC, and Colonial Dames. My ancestor Stephen Hopkins is a qualifying ancestor for Jamestowne Society AND Mayflower Society. My ancestor Mary Chilton, who married John Winslow, was proven in order to become a member of the Winslow Heritage Society AND a cousin to my husband Marston. At the membership meeting on June 17th, we had the special honor of having Former Governor General, George Garmany, representing GSMD attend our meetings and install the newly elected Executive Board.

As many of you could not attend the Membership Meeting in Emeryville, I wanted to share with you my thoughts upon being installed: My journey to standing before you today began by attending many Mayflower events and introducing myself as a Mayflower "wannabe". Genealogical searches for a Mayflower ancestor escaped me until meeting with Chris Childs of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society in 2012. I was seeking his expertise to submit more DAR supplemental patriots. I had selected a Vermont ancestor to research. Chris uncovered Mayflower ancestry for my ancestor's wife leading to Stephen Hopkins.



*Kathy Watson*

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I am so honored for your electing me to be Governor of the California Mayflower Society and present three goals for this administration: Maintain fiscal responsibility: the state society is financially sound to the credit of the past administration implementation of the audit recommendations. The investment committee functions well to support state society operations.

Encourage member involvement and retention. The membership secretary reported troubling numbers which can be ameliorated through the involvement of new members and reaching out to members who have not paid their dues. Introduce technology to make member management easier for the Treasurer and Membership Secretary.

I would like to thank Governor Scott Miller (now DGG) and the former Board for your dedication to this Society and for shepherding us through the last two years. You helped advance the society by establishing an investment committee integral to the continued financial stability of the Society. Another milestone established is the opportunity for any member to “leave a Legacy” by naming the society in your will.

I want to welcome aboard this new Administration: Deputy Governor South: Robert Lincoln (Governor, Los Angeles Colony); Deputy Governor North: Diane Douglass (Assistant Historian and CMC, Sequoia Colony); State Recording Secretary: Milton Greenway (Inland Empire Colony); State Treasurer: Harvey Soldan (Foothill Colony); State Membership Secretary: Kim Pike (Inland Empire Colony); State Historian: Mandy Dunkle (Orange County Colony CMC) Elder: Kenneth Whittemore (Rancho Conejo Colony); State Counselor: Erica Hahn, Esq. (Foothill Colony); Please welcome these Appointed Positions that have been filled: State Captain: Miles Standish (Sequoia Colony); State Surgeon: Dr. Matthew Bowdish (Mother Lode Colony); State Parliamentarian: Marston Watson (San Francisco Peninsula Colony); Oakland Library Manager & Membership Secretary Assistant: Nancy Lucchese (Alameda Colony); Librarian: Dianne Sweeny (San Francisco Peninsula Colony); Co-Editors of the CA Mayflower Quarterly: Ray & Gail Raser (San Diego Colony); Junior Membership Chair: Amy Conboy (San Diego Colony); Investment Committee Chair: John McNeill (Redwood Empire Colony); State Scholarship Chair: Billie Mitchell (Orange County Colony) Website Co-Chairs: Kathy Watson (SF) and Scott Miller (OC); Fortine Award Chair – Marcia Maloney (Orange County Colony); State Advisor – Scott Miller (Orange County Colony) Audit Chair – Maggie McDonald Orange County & Mother Lode Colonymiz) State IT/Technology Chair: Richard Grogan (Orange County Colony & OC Colony BOA Delegate)

There are some open positions for which I’m seeking to make appointments: OPEN: State Education Chair – who can work with State-level Education Organizations to open up doors to school curricula to tell the accurate history of the Pilgrims in a more formal way.

Bylaws and Policies & Procedures Manual – who would review and make recommendations to amend the bylaws (if necessary). Public Relations Committee: Chair is open; Mandy Dunkle & Marcia Maloney promote the Society on social media. Anyone who has an interest in the roles and committees just mentioned, please speak with your Colony Governor or reach out to anyone on the Executive Board to discuss the right fit for you.

Finally, many of us have registered to attend the General Society’s 43rd Triennial where elections are held, and bylaw changes/financial decisions are enacted by the member societies. One financial proposal is for an application fee increase. While we have requested detailed supporting information none has been provided. In principle the California Society of Mayflower Descendants is not inclined to support this proposal. I am looking forward to attending and participating in the General Society Congress as your Governor.

*Kathy Watson  
State Governor*



### Deputy Governor North

I am excited and honored to have been elected Deputy Governor North of the State Society for the 2023 – 2025 term. I consider it a privilege to serve on the Board of Assistants.

This coming term, I am very much looking forward to visiting each of our 7 colonies in the North – Alameda, Monterey Bay, Mother Lode, Redwood Empire, San Francisco, San Joaquin, and Sequoia. I love meeting new people and sharing our interest in genealogy and our rich histories.

In this new position, my objectives are sincere and simple. I am committed to assisting our State Governor, Kathleen Watson, in any capacity and way that I can to help her achieve her goals for our great society. I would also like to support our colonies and help them flourish, engage, and grow. I am excited to learn from each colony and share their ideas and best known practices to solve problems and further strengthen our bond as an organization. I am very much looking forward to getting to know more of my Mayflower cousins as we work together for the betterment of the California society.



*Diane Douglass*

*Diane Douglass  
Deputy Governor North*

### Deputy Governor South

This Spring, I attended three colony meetings: Los Angeles Colony on April 22, Foothill Colony on April 29, and Rancho Conejo Colony on May 6. Each was a nice gathering of fellow Mayflower Descendants interested in the early history of the colonies that would become the United States. More details for each would be in the section for the colonies elsewhere in this Quarterly

but I want to comment on the presentation of the Rancho Conejo Colony speaker, Dr. Michaela Reaves of California Lutheran College, “From Padres to Pearls: Spanish Influence on the Colonial Atlantic Seaboard”. Most of us know about the early Spanish settlements in Florida, Mexico, and the current United States Southwest. But what was especially interesting to me in this talk was how far the Spanish explorers went inland and north through the current United States Southeast. Always nice to learn something new.



*Robert Lincoln*

On May 27, I attended the Scottish Fest in Costa Mesa wearing my Pilgrim attire where the California Mayflower Society had a table. I worked the table in the afternoon talking to prospective members with some of those attendees seeming ready to apply based on having relatives who were members. Both the Costa Mesa and the Ventura Scottish events are fun celebrations with plenty of bagpipes.

On June 17, I attended the California Society Board of Assistants meeting held in Emeryville where the officers for the new two year term were elected. Former Governor General George Garmany gave a presentation titled “New England Captives – Terrorism at the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century” discussing the captive of New England colonist living in the outlying towns by Native Americans.

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He especially focused on the raid of Deerfield, MA in 1704 by a coalition of French soldiers and their Indian allies. Of the 291 people in the town on the night of the attack, forty-four were killed and 109 were taken captive with the intent to take them to Canada. When hearing about such events, I try to put myself in those times.

I have ancestors in the 1600's and early 1700's who were killed by Native Americans especially in Indian raids in King Phillip's War of 1675. But to be fair, I have ancestors who were part of raids on Indian settlements including the massacre at Mystic Fort on May 26, 1637, as part of the Pequot War. In the account of Capt. John Mason who led the raid on the Indian Fort and settlement, he mentions my ancestor, Nicholas Olmsted: "Lieutenant Thomas Bull and Nicholas Olmsted beholding, came up; and when it was thoroughly kindled, the Indians ran about as most dreadfully Amazed".

Nicholas was from Wethersfield, CT, where nine civilians were killed in an Indian raid on April 23 as part of the escalating back and forth. Nicholas would clearly have been affected by that as the Wethersfield population was less than 200 people. From the fire started by Nicholas and the killing of those attempting to flee the burning settlement, up to four hundred Pequot men, women, and children were killed. I visited the Pequot Museum in Mashantucket, CT, last Fall for their perspective. I am proud of all my ancestors and always recognize the struggles they went through establishing the colonies. But I want to also remember that they were people who may have done things for which I am not proud. I encourage us all to learn and remember history as accurately as possible.

*Dr. Robert Lincoln, Ph. D.  
Deputy Governor South*

## State News

### State Elder Report

It has been a goal of this Administration to bring members together, physically and spiritually. I hope the past 2 years have seen some growth in communication between colonies and members and, in addition, an important conscious connection to members through an outreach program. We have introduced our colony Elders to Governor Miller's "Wellness checks" initiative. Initially a slow process but in the past year I think it has taken a tenuous hold.

I hope communication with colony Governors and Elders continues so that this incredibly kind and worthy dialogue continues. The problem is continuity, with turn-over in Governors or Elders much is lost. New Elders need to hear from their Governors what duties are expected of them. It is astonishing to me how many Elders I have spoken to had no idea what was expected of them other than offering prayers at meetings. Last year all Colony Elders were sent a list of their nonagenarian members, many responded with gratitude and promised to send birthday cards and to try to be in touch with those venerable members. As State Elder I continued to send cards to our burgeoning centenarian membership. I use Hallmark ecards which are personalized and sent by Hallmark. They are lovely and spare everyone my declining penmanship!

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I hope the new administration continues and grows the “Wellness Check” program, I am happy to help in any way needed. In addition to bringing colonies closer together in various ways, it is a Blessing for those in need - whether out of loneliness, isolation, illness or bereavement – to receive a call or note from someone who cares.

From a practical point of view, keeping in touch with those on the fringes, especially long out-of-touch life members is incredibly helpful. When this administration came into office an effort to track “lost” members was undertaken. Dozens of deceased members were identified and reported, the State no longer paying dues for members who had passed, in some cases decades before.

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve in Governor Miller’s administration,

*Tawny Welch*  
*State Elder*

### **Junior Membership Report**

The California Mayflower Society encourages all members to bring the next generation to Mayflower events and colony meetings. Please consider sponsoring a relative who is under the age of 18 years old and is in your direct Mayflower line. Junior membership information is on the state website.

In the first five months of 2023 the California Mayflower Society added fourteen new Junior Members. The juniors range in age from one month old to fifteen years old. The sponsors have been mothers, fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers. The sponsors are from Alameda, Los Angeles, Mother Lode, Orange County, Rancho Conejo and San Diego Colonies.

Let's pass on our passion for our Mayflower heritage to our own descendants!

*Amy Conboy*  
*Junior Membership Chair*

### **State Secretary Report**

It has been my pleasurer to be a part of the CSMD Executive Board for the past two years. The June 17 Bi-annual Membership meeting marked the conclusion of my position as your State Secretary. In the process I have learned how hard your Executive Board and the Board of Assistants work on behalf of our State Society. It has been a learning process on my part to keep a record of each Executive meeting and Board of Assistants Meetings for our members. I wish to thank everyone for your guidance and input to ensure the accuracy of the minutes. Special thanks to Scott Miller, our 2021-2023 State Governor, for his support and encouragement, and to Marcia Maloney, our past State Governor, who has been my proof reader before sending the minutes to our board members.

To Melton Greenway, our nominee for the new State Secretary, I wish you the best in your new position. I know from experience you will find serving on the State Board very exciting and rewarding. You will receive help and encouragement from your fellow members. Of course, I will be happy to lend a hand when needed. I have gained many new friendships as a result of serving as State Secretary. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve our members.

*Billie Mitchell*  
*State Secretary*



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## Historian Report

It's hard to believe that we're already halfway through 2023 and that two years have passed since I was elected as your State Historian. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the California State Society, its members, and the community in preserving their heritage and lineage into the Mayflower Society. We have accomplished so much in these two years and have processed record



*Mandy Dunkle*

numbers of new and supplemental applications. We've cleared out a massive backlog and have now streamlined the application process into a fully digital submission to the General Society. I want to thank my team of Assistant Historians for their help in this and for their support. Diane Douglass, Dianna Saario, Erica Hahn, and Ken Whitemore – you've been a great asset to our State Society. As we start a new administration, I feel a bit of housekeeping for how applications and supplementals are initiated would be helpful:

The preliminary form has changed in the last few years. Our current preliminary form is emailed to you directly. However, it is not mailed back to our Oakland office, but instead emailed to me at:

[historian@camayflower.org](mailto:historian@camayflower.org) or you can email me for my address to send by postal mail. No funds are sent when you mail your preliminary form to me. Funds are only accepted when the application is completed and ready

to go to Plymouth for final approval.

The GSMD offers a "Mayflower Lineage Match" program for those interested in confirming a line they believe to be plausible. This costs \$75, however it is not required to do in order to become a member or to submit a supplemental; nor does the money spent for this service go towards your application fee. This is simply a service that the GSMD offers but is not a prerequisite to join. Our current fees are: New Applications - \$245 / Supplementals - \$185 / Silver Supplementals \$140 / and a family rate of \$215 for any family members applying along with you for the same line at the same time.

As always, if you have any questions, you may always email me at [historian@camayflower.org](mailto:historian@camayflower.org). I'm here to help you with all your research and application questions! I will be attending the GBOA congress in Plymouth this September and we will be voting on a lot of important items as well as voting for a new board. I'm excited for what the future holds for the GSMD!

The Historian team has submitted approximately 50 new member applications and 35 supplementals since April 1st, 2023.

Since April 1st, 2023, 41 new applications and 38 supplementals were approved.

Mandy Dunkle  
California State Historian



***Eugene Fortine Education Colony Award Winner Announced  
at State Membership Meeting on June 17th, 2023***

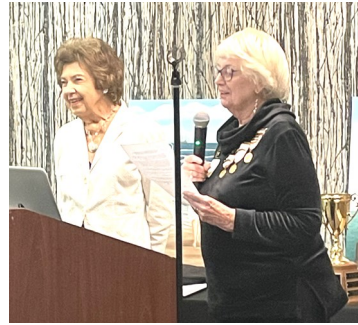
By Marcia Huntley Maloney for the Fortine Trophy Committee

Every two years an award is presented to the colony which, through its activities and outreach programs, has demonstrated exceptional performance in meeting the educational and outreach goals of the California Mayflower Society. Gene Fortine was a very beloved member of the California Society. He served in various capacities within the state as well as governor and treasurer. He also served as Governor General to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Sadly, we lost Gene in 2005.

Fortunately, his widow, Pat Fortine, was able to join us again when we presented this award during our state meeting. Pat spoke eloquently of the purpose of this award and what it means to keep our Mayflower message alive. She and Gene spent many years visiting schools and community groups telling the real story of our Pilgrims.

She stated she has many photo albums that have countless pictures of the activities he engaged in throughout his membership in our society. Gene has been gone for 17½ years. He was proud of this society and the efforts to educate others about the Mayflower Story. The Fortine Trophy for education and preserving the Mayflower story honors his legacy.

Once again the judges found it difficult to determine the winner because colonies throughout the state outdid themselves, particularly with speaking engagements and other outreach activities. Thanks to our judges, Lorraine Kocen (RC), Billie Mitchell (OC), and Diane Douglass (SE). The 2021-2023 trophy was awarded to Orange County Society



*Pat Fortine and Marsha Maloney*



*Orange County Colony Members accepting trophy*

Our thanks also go all the colonies throughout the state for the contributions made by our members during 2021-2023. With all the great talent and enthusiasm in our state society, we have no doubt that we will keep our pilgrim story alive and well and help to dispel myths that have developed over the years.

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*Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of California*  
*Scholarship Chair 2023 final report to BOA*

The results of our Scholarship Program is as follows:

We had 4 applicants who met the application requirements.

**1<sup>st</sup> Place with an award of \$5,000 is:**

Landon Lassahn from Solvang California is a descendant of William Brewster and the grandson of Wendy Louise (Mason) Crawford, a member of Santa Barbara Colony. He is a league MVP in Water Polo and team captain. He has been accepted to UC Santa Barbara.

**2<sup>nd</sup> place with an award of \$3,500 is:**

Jordan Joseph Garcia from Atwater, Ca is a descendant of John Alden and the son of Maryann Garcia a member of the San Joaquin Valley Colony. He is a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and Phi Theta Kappa California State Champion. USA swim team club member and 177 registered hours of community service. He has been accepted to Cornell University.

**3<sup>rd</sup> place with an award of \$2,500 is:**

Collin Martin from Aliso Viejo, Ca is a descendant of John Howland and the grandson of Sharon Martin a member of Rancho Cornejo Colony. Superintendent Honor Roll, Scholar Athlete, Varsity Lacrosse captain, student of the semester. He has been accepted to the University of Utah.

**4<sup>th</sup> place with an award of \$1,000 is:**

Mason Goulart from Simi Valley, Ca is a descendant of John Alden and the brother of Nicole Goulart a member of Rancho Cornejo Colony. Extracurricular activities Baseball, Technical Theater and yearbook. Highest honors each semester of high school. Mayflower rose parade float decorating 2020 parade. Is considering entering Moorpark College or Grand Canyon University.

Scholarship chair is working with Ray and Gail to provide copy of essays and photos of the winners for publication in the summer edition of the California Mayflower Quarterly.

*Larry Beston*  
*Scholarship chair.*





## *Landon Lassahn*

1st Place Winner Personal Essay

The Mayflower landing is one of the most significant moments in American history. And the fact that the passengers had the wherewithal to draft and sign a document that gave them all an equal voice, unify them as a group and settle their arguments before even leaving the boat is impressive. As a descendant from nine different passengers on the Mayflower, I think it's important to acknowledge that it took a lot of courage for these people to step aboard the boat in the first place.



It's equally impressive that William Bradford (one of my ancestors) stepped up as the leader on board the ship and in this new land. I too, am a leader and can relate to some of the challenges he faced as the person people look to for guidance.

Throughout my high school experience, I have been called on to step into leadership roles repeatedly. My sophomore year, I was chosen as Captain for the varsity basketball team and subsequently my junior and senior years as well. My senior year, I was voted school treasurer by the entire student body. And in my senior year, I was the captain of the water polo team. For me, leadership is about taking risks, challenging the status quo, and motivating others to do something new and better. And I imagine this same definition held true for William Bradford as well.

Leadership shows up in big moments (like the signing of the Mayflower Compact) but also in the smaller, more mundane moments as well. For me that looks like checking in on a basketball teammate who seems sad. It means being thoughtful about the greater good of the students at my high school when managing and approving the ASB budget as treasurer. Being a leader is something I take seriously outside of school as well. I am the designated driver for all my friends and teammates. They know that they can always count on me for a safe and sober ride home.

William Bradford had to lead the colony on and off for 30 years. And he strived to create the best government possible for the Pilgrims, despite the challenges presented with the role. That's what being a true leader takes, truly doing things for the good of other people. I hope to continue working on my leadership skills in college both in and out of the classroom. I want to grow my understanding of how to best represent people and push towards greatness as a group. I hope to play Division 1 water polo in college, and I will be putting my leadership skills to use in the pool as well. Becoming an influential leader is in my blood, and now I just need to follow through. This Mayflower scholarship will help me take the next steps into fulfilling my leadership destiny.



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*2023 scholarship 1<sup>st</sup> place winner Landon Lassahn \$5,500*  
*Ancestor William Bradford*

Letter to Ancestor  
December 1, 1621

To my dearest Uncle Robert,

It has been a little over a year since we landed on this new continent, and I have so much to share with you.

The journey was a test of faith. The Mayflower ship in which we travelled was small, cramped, and more than most of us could bear for 66 days. We took a northern ocean route to avoid pirates, but we did run into a bad storm and the beams that frame our ship were damaged. Thankfully, we had the tools aboard to fix it and we forged ahead. The trip was treacherous. We lived in the dark, cold cargo area and it was wretched. But we all knew our suffering was temporary. And the grace of God blessed us with a successful voyage.

After arriving in November last year at a place called Cape Cod we sailed up the coast to Plymouth to build our town. The land is wooded and covered in brush. The native tribe, the Wampanoag, inhabited the land before us. However, most of them fell ill and passed before we arrived. I hope our passengers will continue to be friendly with them and keep the peace.

Sadly, we lost about half the people on the ship to sickness after we arrived. I also fell sick and wasn't sure if I would survive the harsh winter in my condition. We endured subfreezing temperatures, harsh winds, and heavy snow at times. I was taken back to my days as a sickly child when I was so weak. And sadly, my dear wife Dorothy passed away while we were anchored offshore. She accidentally drowned in the icy waters after falling off the ship. My heart is broken and the grief overtakes me at times. I do worry how our son John will take the news of his mother's passing. It is so bitterly cold here and we weren't prepared.

By March this year, we had built homes for most everyone. However, before everyone moved off the ship, we drafted a document called *The Mayflower Compact* that 41 of the male passengers signed. I was tasked with writing it out on the manuscript. It is a document that proclaims our new government but also still shows our allegiance to the Crown of England. We all agree to follow the rules set forth in this compact as a tribute to our survival in this new land.

Six months into our time here, our elected Governor John Carver passed away. I was then chosen to take his place. There are so many challenges here and I am so weary after everything we have endured. I refuse to give up though and believe I can make a difference in this new land. Although the days are long with building and setting up our new town, I do find the time to read at night via candlelight. I was able to bring my beloved books with me and they have been my faithful companions. The words comfort me in my times of our doubt and uncertainty.

This last year has been at times tedious and dreadful but also joyous and blessed. Our cries to the Lord did not go unanswered. We are now on our way to building this Colony into what we had envisioned.

Your faithful nephew, William Bradford

## *Jordan García*

2nd Place Winner Personal Essay

When I learned about being part of the Alden family, I was truly fascinated. Learning that John Alden came to what I know as the United State when he was twenty-one years old is truly impressive. I learned that he was a barrel maker and that he was given the option to stay in America or go back to England.; however, he stayed in America. The first winter was tough for not only John Alden, but the rest of the colonists. Furthermore, I learned that John Alden, along with other



Plymouth colonists founded the town of Duxbury where he later served as deputy to the Plymouth court in addition to serving time as a colony treasurer.

Along with that, he participated in numerous unpaid public service duties. While John Alden served in public positions, he was involved in Joint-stock companies. Also, while reading about the Mayflower Compact, I learned that they wanted everything to be fair to avoid any type of skirmishes or fighting. With this being said, learning about John Alden has influenced my personal morals because I

have a big heart when it comes to helping others, such as the homeless or unhoused people, or even someone who needs help with homework. Also, he has influenced my future plans because I want to be successful, relevant, and resilient the same way John Alden was when landed in America.

### ***2023 scholarship 2nd place winner Jordan García \$3,500***

Letter to Mayflower Ancestor Essay

My Dearest Alden Family,

Life in the New Land has been full of new adventures. Of course, there have been challenges along the way, but that was to be expected. As we settled into unknown land and having only the tools that we brought from England, we had the task of building small homes to be more comfortable on this plantation. The main reason though, is to be out of the elements as the weather can be harsh. Many people still lived on the ship because the weather hindered conditions. We have planted corn under the guidance of the Indians, the native people or savages of this new land.

Originally, we thought that there would be conformation with these people, but we both came to realize that peace is the best solution. They have helped us survive and adjust to this way of living off the land. These Indians are very minimalist. They do not wear clothing except for covering their lower pelvic area. They are free with their bodies and have no shame or embarrassment. Most of them are trusting and yet they have no religion or order of faith. We will occasionally feast with the Indians.

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Also, there is an abundance of fish here and in the Summertime, the bay is full of lobster. In addition, there are many different species of birds to hunt. We have found wild gooseberries, strawberries, and many more berries.

Although it sounds like life is grand in this new land, it is a constant work in progress. We have laws that generated and set expectations for crimes that may be committed and how they will be punished. For every person who sees an opportunity that is not legitimate, they need to understand that there will be consequences. As you know, there are some people who travelled to this new land, not for religious freedom, but for money or greed. This document, which is called the Mayflower Compact is very important over here in the new world because it has established laws as well as everyone working together to survive in this new world. I believe that it will be a valuable resource to the generations who come after us.

When I return to England with some of the furs from the animals that were skinned and other items from this new land, I do hope that I can have a good exchange of value for these items. This way I will be better stocked when I return again to the New England area. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

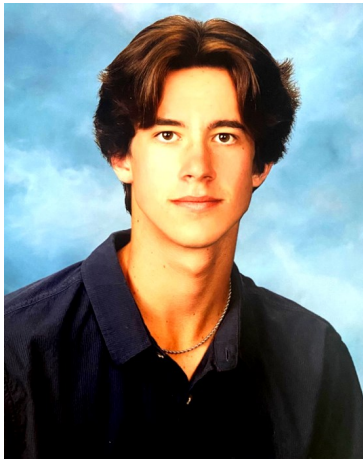
Your loving relative,  
John Alden

### *Colin Martin*

3rd Place Winner Personal Essay

Researching the Mayflower, one of the most famous ships in history, has been a transformative experience for me. As I delved into the history of the Mayflower, its passengers, and their journey, I gained a new perspective on the importance of perseverance, community, and the pursuit of freedom.

First and foremost, researching the Mayflower taught me the power of perseverance. The journey from England to the New World was treacherous, and the passengers faced numerous challenges and setbacks along the way. From storms to illness to food shortages, they endured hardship, yet they never gave up. Through their resilience and determination, they made it to their destination and paved the way for future generations. This lesson has stayed with me and has taught me to keep pushing forward in the face of adversity.



Furthermore, my research on the Mayflower taught me the importance of community. The passengers on the Mayflower were not just individuals, but a group of people united by a common goal: to create a new life for themselves in a new land. They worked together, supported each other, and relied on each other to survive. The community they formed was essential to their success, and it is a reminder to me of the value of human connection and cooperation.

Finally, researching the Mayflower has emphasized for me the significance of the pursuit of freedom. The passengers on the Mayflower left their homes and risked everything they had in search of a better life. Their bravery in pursuing this goal has inspired me to reflect on the freedoms I have in my own life and to appreciate the sacrifices made by those who came before me to secure them. My research on the Mayflower has also had a personal impact on me.

As a descendant of one of the passengers on the Mayflower, I have gained a deeper appreciation for my own family history and heritage. Learning about the experiences of my ancestors has helped me to better understand where I come from and has driven me to a sense of pride in my lineage.

Additionally, researching the Mayflower has sparked an interest in history that I never had before. I have always enjoyed learning about the past, but my research on the Mayflower has taken that interest to a new level. I have found myself seeking out other historical topics to explore and have gained a new appreciation for the richness and complexity of the human experience over time. In conclusion, my research on the Mayflower has had a profound impact on my life. It has taught me about the importance of perseverance, community, and the pursuit of freedom. It has also given me a greater understanding of my own family history and has sparked a newfound interest in history. I am grateful for the opportunity to have explored the history of the Mayflower and its passengers and look forward to continuing to learn and grow from the lessons it has taught me.

***2023 scholarship 3rd place winner Colin Martin \$2,500***

Letter to Mayflower Ancestor Essay  
Ancestor John Howland

Dear Family,

I hope this letter finds you well. It's been many months since we last saw each other, and so much has happened. As you know, I decided to leave our homeland and journey to the new World on the Mayflower as a manservant to Governor John Carver. It was a difficult decision to leave behind everything I knew and loved, but I felt that it was necessary for me to start a new life and build a better future for myself.

The journey was long and treacherous, lasting over two months on the rough seas. We faced many challenges along the way, including sickness, storms, and even a shortage of food and water. I feel grateful to have made it across with my life as I faced a horrible incident when a huge wave swept me overboard. Thankfully, the crew saw me and hauled me in like a big fish. We finally arrived at our destination in the autumn of last year.

The New World is unlike anything I have ever seen before. The land is vast and beautiful, with rolling hills, forests, and clear rivers. The air is fresh and clean, and the wildlife is abundant. It's hard to believe that we are the first Europeans to set foot on this land, and I am both excited and nervous to see what the future holds.

Life here has its challenges. The winters are harsh, and food and supplies are sometimes scarce. We are working hard to build homes, farms, and communities that will sustain us for generations to come. There are many other immigrants here with us, all seeking a new life and new opportunities. It fills me with hope to see so many people coming together to help each other and build a new society from scratch.

Even though I miss you terribly, and often think about our homeland, I believe that this journey was the right choice for me. I am eager to see where this new path takes me. I hope that someday soon you will be able to join me in this new world and that we can build a life together in this beautiful and promising land. Please write back soon and let me know how you are all doing. I eagerly await your news from home.

With love,  
John Howland



## *Mason Goulart*

4th Place Winner Personal Essay

I have spent the last three and a half years at a Christian High School in my hometown. Recently I have been catching myself slowly relaxing and using excuses to put off homework and studying until the last moment. Some call it senioritis. Studying John Alden has placed my goals in perspective. I understand that sometimes the more difficult path can bear the ripest of fruits. I am still deciding what career path to take. I have plenty of ideas and interests. After examining John Alden's steady and unwavering faith in God's plan for his life, I am motivated to apply this to my life and seek God's counsel while moving forward in his plan with confidence. The choice to step off the Mayflower was Alden's and his alone. Alden took the leap that many would have shied away from. As the Mayflower Compact stated, Alden and his fellow colonists were planting their colony, "for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith".



(1).

He changed the course of my history and maybe even America's history by being brave and strong, but simultaneously kind and willing to adapt to his new surroundings. I hope to adopt these characteristics in my final months of high school and into college as well. Alden's Christian view laid a framework that shaped his physical, emotional, and intellectual life. While difficult at times, I believe, just as John Alden did, that God's plan will be for the better even if I do not fully understand it. Now if moving forward in life is difficult, I will do my best to stride through the uncertainties of the not-so-distant future with the knowledge that I am a descendant of and carry the genes of a strong, intelligent, and humble man.

*From History of Plymouth Plantation by William Bradford (1590-1657). Second Governor of Plymouth.*

### **2023 scholarship 4th place winner Mason Goulart \$1,000**

Letter to Mayflower Ancestor Essay

Dear Cousin John,

I am writing to you from Plymouth Colony. I would first like to apologize for the tardiness of my letter. The winter was long and harsh. Sadly, half of the colony died due to sickness and starvation. After much internal debate, and despite my original intent, I elected to remain in Plymouth. As you know my profession of barrel making was essential on our trip to the New World to keep the water and weak beer drinkable. I have since used my knowledge of woodworking to build houses, furniture, and other important buildings such as a meeting hall for our colony.

I was afraid we would have an issue before we even got off the Mayflower. We landed North of our intended destination, Jamestown, VA. Some of the strangers argued we should not be bound to the Virginia Company Charter. They wanted every man, woman, and child to fend for themselves. The discontent was palpable. Finally, a compromise was reached and the division between the Separatists and Strangers was rectified, thanks to the grace of the Lord! A pact was agreed upon for the good of our new colony. For now, we have agreed to work together and pray together for the survival of our colony.

We agreed to enact whatever," laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices" (1) for the betterment of Plymouth colony. Forty- one of us men signed the parchment, including myself and Myles Standish. Myles was a soldier and became the enforcer of our newly created laws. He also became a trusted friend to me.

I digress. William Mullins death was a tragedy and I thank you for delivering his will to be probated. Despite this horrible loss to the community and for her family Miss Mullins has remained strong and I am not ashamed to admit I am inspired by her determination and grit. She has allowed me to court her throughout the summer and returned my affections as well! Soon I shall ask for her hand in marriage and pray for the Lord's blessing, as I eagerly am. Please find Mr. Mullins other two children and pass along the unfortunate and painful news of their father's death.

Thank you, dear Cousin, for providing me with the opportunity to come along on the Mayflower to the New World. I cannot express my gratitude for my newfound love and appreciation of the adventure that I was keeping bottled up in England. I now see God has been using my time in England in order to hone my skill and profession for the good of this community.

I have been elected to serve as the governor's assistant and fully intend to remain fully involved in the politics of this budding colony. Though it was a long and perilous journey I have thrived, gratefully, and my hope is that the Lord will continue to use me and others in this New World so that we can follow his statutes as he originally intended.

Sincerely, John Alden.

{1} *From History of Plymouth Plantation by William Bradford {1590-1657}*



**New Members from  
Mar 31, 2023 to June 27, 2023**

**ALAMEDA COLONY**

Lynda M. Moore  
GS# 104145 CA# 10469  
12<sup>th</sup> from Stephen Hopkins

Jean Bradbury  
GS# 104296 CA# 10477  
12<sup>th</sup> from Thomas Rogers

Jennifer Rich  
GS# 104322 CA# 10482  
13<sup>th</sup> from John Alden

Janice Bowerman  
GS# 104406 CA# 10491  
13<sup>th</sup> from Mrs. Mary Brewster

**FOOTHILL COLONY**

Tom Adams  
GS# 104453 CA# 10496  
12<sup>th</sup> from William Bradford

**INLAND EMPIRE COLONY**

Marcia (Giles) Darnell  
GS# 104177 CA# 10470  
12<sup>th</sup> from Samuel Fuller (son of Edward)

Nancy (Giles) McKinney  
GS# 104178 CA# 10471  
12<sup>th</sup> from Samuel Fuller (son of Edward)

Melinda Travis  
GS# 104467 CA# 10499  
12<sup>th</sup> from William Bradford

**LOS ANGELES COLONY**

Rachel Whitman  
GS# 104130 CA# 10468  
13<sup>th</sup> from William Brewster

Lisa Doverspike  
GS# 104423 CA# 10493  
12<sup>th</sup> from Thomas Rogers

**MONTEREY BAY COLONY**

Kristine (Oberg) Hernandez  
GS# 104297 CA# 10478  
12<sup>th</sup> from John Howland  
Alicia White  
GS# 104323 CA# 10483  
14<sup>th</sup> from William White

Jill Curcelli  
GS# 104359 CA# 10487  
12<sup>th</sup> from Richard Warren

**MOTHER LODE COLONY**

Deborah Gulliford  
GS# 104129 CA# 10467  
12<sup>th</sup> from William Brewster

Lynn (O'Farrell) Wheaton  
GS# 104362 CA# 10490  
12<sup>th</sup> from William Brewster

Julia Burrows  
GS# 104437 CA# 10494  
12<sup>th</sup> from John Alden

Jennifer (Kelly) Yanez  
GS# 104438 CA# 10495  
12<sup>th</sup> from John Alden

**ORANGE COUNTY COLONY**

Geraldine Morrison  
GS# 104207 CA# 10472  
11<sup>th</sup> from Stephen Hopkins

Julia Morrison Staudinger  
GS# 104208 CA# 10473  
13<sup>th</sup> from William Brewster

Alan Love-LaPan  
GS# 104253 CA# 10475  
13<sup>th</sup> from William Bradford  
Beau Bannerman  
GS# 104357 CA# 10485  
11<sup>th</sup> from Francis Cooke

William Cahoon  
GS# 104358 CA# 10486  
11<sup>th</sup> from John Howland

**RANCHO CONEJO COLONY**

Kimberly Ann Delledonne  
GS# 104128 CA# 10466  
10<sup>th</sup> from Myles Standish

Virginia L. Iverson  
GS# 104320 CA# 10480  
10<sup>th</sup> from Peter Brown

Lisa Manners  
GS# 104321 CA# 10481  
13<sup>th</sup> from Richard Warren

Cheri Kennaley  
GS# 104454 CA# 10497  
12<sup>th</sup> from Richard Warren

**REDWOOD EMPIRE COLONY**

Kristina Motchar  
GS# 104209 CA# 10474  
11<sup>th</sup> from Edward Doty

George Grant Watson II  
GS# 104277 CA# 10476  
10<sup>th</sup> from George Soule

Karen Miller  
GS# 104332 CA# 10484  
12<sup>th</sup> from Priscilla Mullins

Steven Nickerson  
GS# 104360 CA# 10488  
13<sup>th</sup> from Stephen Hopkins

Kenneth O'Farrell  
GS# 104361 CA# 10489  
12<sup>th</sup> from William Brewster

**SAN DIEGO COLONY**

Deborah Eckert  
GS# 104407 CA# 10492  
13<sup>th</sup> from James Chilton

**SANTA BARBARA COLONY**

Maya Adams  
GS# 104466 CA# 10498  
13<sup>th</sup> from John Howland

**SEQUOIA COLONY**

Alice Mugler  
GS# 104298 CA# 10479  
11<sup>th</sup> from William Bradford

**Supplementals from  
April 07, 2023 to June 30, 2023**

**ALAMEDA COLONY**

Brian Bonner  
GS# 99482 CA# 9885  
11<sup>th</sup> from Priscilla Mullins  
12<sup>th</sup> from William Mullins

Rev. Marsha Davis  
GS# 75469 CA# 7766  
11<sup>th</sup> from John Cooke

Linda von Studnitz  
GS# 103976 CA# 10449  
11<sup>th</sup> from John Alden

Kevin Keith  
GS# 103545 CA# 10395  
11<sup>th</sup> from George Soule

**FOOTHILL COLONY**

Mary Kenney  
GS# 94729 CA# 9425  
11<sup>th</sup> from Richard Warren

**INLAND EMPIRE COLONY**

Pamela Mikkelsen  
GS# 93239 CA# 9275  
11<sup>th</sup> from Love Brewster  
11<sup>th</sup> from Priscilla Mullins  
12<sup>th</sup> from Mrs. Mary Brewster

Joan Anderson  
GS# 103881 CA# 10433  
11<sup>th</sup> from John Howland

**LOS ANGELES COLONY**

Calvin Cahoon  
GS# 65400 CA# 6598  
11<sup>th</sup> from John Howland

**MOTHER LODE COLONY**

Mary Basso  
GS# 97428 CA# 9651  
11<sup>th</sup> from Love Brewster  
12<sup>th</sup> from Mrs. Mary Brewster  
13<sup>th</sup> from Remember Allerton  
13<sup>th</sup> from John Howland  
13<sup>th</sup> from Elizabeth Tilley  
14<sup>th</sup> from Joan (Hurst) Tilley  
14<sup>th</sup> from Mary (Norris) Allerton

Rachelle Yost  
GS# 102381 CA# 10254  
12<sup>th</sup> from John Howland

12<sup>th</sup> from Elizabeth Tilley  
13<sup>th</sup> from Richard Warren

**ORANGE COUNTY COLONY**

Tricia Tremper  
GS# 103025 CA# 10345  
10<sup>th</sup> from Priscilla Mullins  
11<sup>th</sup> from William Mullins  
12<sup>th</sup> from Francis Cooke

Debra E. Morrison  
GS# 96962 CA# 9588  
12<sup>th</sup> from Stephen Hopkins

**RANCHO CONEJO COLONY**

Holly Comstock Newcomb  
GS# 94706 CA# 9424  
12<sup>th</sup> from Mrs. Mary Brewster  
12<sup>th</sup> from William Mullins

**SAN DIEGO COLONY**

Joy Schumacher  
GS# 95951 CA# 9523  
12<sup>th</sup> from Giles Hopkins  
13<sup>th</sup> from Stephen Hopkins  
14<sup>th</sup> from William Brewster

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY COLONY**

Beverly Wyman  
GS# 93092 CA# 9265  
11<sup>th</sup> from John Howland

Gayl Woityra  
GS# 102865 CA# 10318  
13<sup>th</sup> from Richard Warren

**SANTA BARBARA COLONY**

Wendy Crawford  
GS# 98492 CA# 9764  
12<sup>th</sup> from Joseph Rogers  
12<sup>th</sup> from Giles Hopkins  
13<sup>th</sup> from Stephen Hopkins

Tami Wilkening  
GS# 65905 CA# 6669  
11<sup>th</sup> from Elinor Billington  
11<sup>th</sup> from Mrs. Mary Brewster  
11<sup>th</sup> from Joseph Rogers

**SEQUOIA COLONY**

Susanne Brokaw  
GS# 99677 CA# 9911  
12<sup>th</sup> from Richard More



## Elected Officers & Board of Assistants

<b>Governor</b>	Kathleen Watson	<a href="mailto:governor@camayflower.org">governor@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Dep. Governor N.</b>	Diane Douglass	<a href="mailto:deputygovernornorth@camayflower.org">deputygovernornorth@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Dep. Governor S.</b>	Dr. Robert A. Lincoln	<a href="mailto:deputygovernorsouth@camayflower.org">deputygovernorsouth@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Milton Greenway	<a href="mailto:recordingsecretary@camayflower.org">recordingsecretary@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Harvey Soldan	<a href="mailto:treasurer@camayflower.org">treasurer@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Historian</b>	Miranda "Mandy" Dunkle	<a href="mailto:historian@camayflower.org">historian@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Membership Sec.</b>	Kim Pike	<a href="mailto:membershipsecretary@camayflower.org">membershipsecretary@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Elder</b>	Kenneth Whittemore	<a href="mailto:elder@camayflower.org">elder@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Counselor</b>	Erica Lis Hahn	<a href="mailto:counselor@camayflower.org">counselor@camayflower.org</a>

### Appointed Positions & Committee Chairs

<b>Captain</b>	Miles Standish	<a href="mailto:captain@camayflower.org">captain@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Surgeon</b>	Matthew S. Bowdish, MD	<a href="mailto:surgeon@camayflower.org">surgeon@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Librarian</b>	Dianne Sweeny	<a href="mailto:librarian@camayflower.org">librarian@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Office/Library Manager</b>	Nancy Lucchese	<a href="mailto:officemanager@camayflower.org">officemanager@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Jr. Membership</b>	Amy Conboy	<a href="mailto:juniormemberships@camayflower.org">juniormemberships@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Social Media</b>	Vacant	
<b>Public Relations</b>	Tawny Welch	<a href="mailto:prchair@camayflower.org">prchair@camayflower.org</a>
	Kim Pike	<a href="mailto:preochair@camayflower.org">preochair@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Technology</b>	Richard Grogan	<a href="mailto:tech@camayflower.org">tech@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Investment</b>	John McNeill	<a href="mailto:investments@camayflower.org">investments@camayflower.org</a>
<b>Edu./Scholarship</b>	Billie Mitchell	<a href="mailto:edu@camayflower.org">edu@camayflower.org</a>
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### Colony Governors

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### Are You Moving?

Be sure to notify our State Membership Secretary, Kim Pike at:  
[membershipsecretary@camayflower.org](mailto:membershipsecretary@camayflower.org)

She will notify your governor and everyone else who needs to know. This will enable you to receive your California Mayflower, Mayflower Quarterly and other mailings in a timely fashion.

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### California Mayflower

Next deadline: October 01, 2023 . Send all text and photo submissions to Ray and Gail at:  
[newseditor@camayflower.org](mailto:newseditor@camayflower.org)

Submissions to the California Mayflower Quarterly must be in digital format, either in the body of an email or as a Microsoft Word document attachment. Queries relevant to Mayflower families will be published pending space availability. PLEASE limit them to 75 words. Include your membership number and contact information.

NOTE the deadlines: They will remain the same year after year. Submissions prior to the deadlines are always appreciated.

Fall issue	October 1st 2023
Winter issue	January 2nd 2024
Spring issue	April 1st 2024
Summer issue	July 1st 2024

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Visit the California Society of Mayflower Descendants on the web at:  
[www.camayflower.org](http://www.camayflower.org) or [www.camayflower.com](http://www.camayflower.com)

Visit the General Society of Mayflower Descendants at:  
[www.themayflowersociety.org](http://www.themayflowersociety.org)

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### CA Mayflower Board of Assistants 2023-2024 Meeting Schedule

Mark your calendar to save these dates for future meetings:

**Fall 2023** - October 20, 21, 2023 in Santa Ana, CA

**Winter 2024** - January 19 & 20

**Spring 2024** - March 15 & 16

**Summer 2024** - June 14 & 15

**Fall 2024** - October 18 & 19

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# Colony News

## Foothill Colony

In April, Foothill Colony members enjoyed an excellent presentation by Donna Watkins about "Love (and some drama) Among the Pilgrims." New members were welcomed aboard with a custom Foothill Colony mug. The beautiful quilt entitled "Mayflower Passages" made by Jinny DeAngelis was won by Sherry Setoda.



*Garden Room Theater screening of "Stephano"  
Photo credit: Carole Curran*

We gathered in May at the Garden Room Theater for a relaxing private matinee screening of "Stephano: The True Story of Shakespeare's Shipwreck." Popcorn and sweets rounded out



*Sherry Setoda (left) with "Mayflower Passages" created by Jinny DeAngelis  
Photo credit: Cindy Deem*

the event along with a rousing discussion after the movie.

Foothill Colony is very proud of our members elected to serve on the State Society Executive Board for 2023-2025. Harvey Soldan, State Treasurer, and Erica Hahn, State Counselor, are continuing in their vital roles on the board for the next term.

Congratulations to both and to the entire new Executive Board. Foothill Colony also extends hearty congratulations to the Orange County Colony for winning the coveted Gene Fortine Award. Well done!



*Harvey Soldan and Erica Hahn are congratulated by Colony Governor Carole Curran, center, in Emeryville, CA*

*Carole Curran  
Foothill Colony, Governor*



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### Mother Lode Colony

The Mother Lode Colony met in April in Folsom for our quarterly meeting. The members present approved our budget for the 2023 year.

A check for \$400.00 from the Mother Lode Colony for the California Mayflower Society Scholarships was sent April 2023 to Harvey Soldan, Treasurer. You might recall that in 2022 three of California State's four scholarship recipients were related to Mother Lode Colony members! We are pleased to support this worthwhile philanthropy of our Society.

Our Executive Board made the decision in honor of outgoing Governor, Elizabeth Ware, for her leadership and dedication to the goals of the Mayflower Society.

The Mother Lode Colony invites members and their guests to our next meeting Saturday, September 9, at the Cliff House of Folsom, 9900 Greenback Lane, Folsom, 12:00 noon to 2:00pm.. Presenting our September program is Dr. Matthew Bowdish, subject, DNA. Dr. Bowdish was re-elected as State Surgeon at June 17, 2023 State Membership meeting, Emeryville, he is a Mother Lode colony member and along several state board members who graciously volunteered to serve, The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of California, Inc.

Our April 2023 meeting was first meeting with new term of officers, and included myself, your governor, Catherine Graham, our Secretary, Sharon Melberg- Sheer, Treasurer, Sylvia Dillard, and Elder, Helen MacLaren reports and Assistant Governor, Carl Olson lead the discussion, genealogy websites. Conversations and exchanges with attendees provided new ideas and interest to learn to be a better genealogist for members and guests. The menu featured two of the most popular choices of entrees with our members and guests most often purchased by attendees, we hoped to expedite the servers delivery of lunch courses, keeping hot food hot for attendees, allowing more time to enjoy the meal and meeting. It appeared successful.

Our Secretary Sharon Melberg- Scheer, will send the meeting minutes to all Mother Lode Colony Members, in good standing [dues paid]. However, only Mother Lode Colony members in good standing who attended our April meeting, may vote of approval on minutes.

April 22 attending the AHP luncheon, speaker, author Carolyn Winterer at Sheraton Hotel downtown, Sacramento, learning of concept on "public happiness". Jonathan Dickey, co-partner AHD, is now Nevada State Mayflower Governor, former California Mayflower Society Counselor and Mother Lode Colony member. He sends his regards to us, hopes we invite him to attend Mother Lode meeting. He continues presenting new programs for group meetings. Jonathan introduced several attendees at the luncheon, many leaders of lineage societies. I was introduced, Mother Lode Colony Governor, as was our California Mayflower Society. My husband, Arthur attended with me.

AHP, mission is collaboration of non- profit groups and individual representatives can elevate and educate, with high level of authors, speakers. In addition, prior to meeting, guests gathered in nice ample space provided outside the meeting room to display books, brochures, items for sale, and raffle tickets for a variety of gift baskets. Future events with AHP may be ideal for public relations for the California Mayflower Society, Sacramento being a great location for our greater area and the entire state with connecting air service, we are really the farthest north of all the California colonies.

June 17 I attended as delegate Board of Assistants meeting 830a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, Emeryville, where state officers gave reports on outcomes of Executive committee voting June 16, and in particular a very important one on dues, on which I had written proposal for removing fines for re-instatement of dues, with shorter grace period for delinquent dues, for change and clarity, after previous BOA meeting. It was gratifying to hear a yes vote on outcome. We learned about future items on the ballot during the 43<sup>rd</sup> Congress and the membership meeting.

Mother Lode Colony executive committee will discuss at our next meeting (July), confirming our members' preferred way to receive Mayflower invitations, and whether they are enjoying receiving Plymouth news (Pilgrim Press) and publications included in membership benefits. If you don't use email, or don't want email invitations to meetings, we need to know. We will confirm our members' residence address, phone and or mobile number is up to date, by December 1, 2023.

Thank you very much, in advance. If you have any questions or concerns, about receiving invitations to meetings please contact me.

**43<sup>rd</sup> Congress Plymouth, MA.** Sep. 8-13, 2023, 43<sup>rd</sup> Congress in Plymouth. Visit The Mayflower Society to Register and learn more about it. I have registered. Register if you are attending, after your have done so, contact Scott Miller, find information on California Mayflower Society website, Mayflower Quarterly, and California Quarterly.

*Catherine Graham  
Mother Lode Colony, Governor*

### Redwood Empire

Some of the most wonderful discoveries come from within! On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, some from Redwood Empire Colony enjoyed a Settlement Meeting in Santa Rosa at the home of Candace McGuire. Our Settlements are merely a gathering of members in a local area, generally for light refreshments and conversation. As we engaged in chat and got to know each other a bit more I became curious about one among us who was clearly well acquainted with her ancestry and related some interesting



accounts of the Mayflower woman who was her primary ancestor. She spoke well and entertained all.

We had decided our May Colony Meeting, on Mother's Day weekend, should have a program honoring the mothers of the May-

flower, but were having a time finding a speaker. We decided to create our own tribute, and proceeded to do some deep research, finding ample material from past events on the web. Upon coming across the biography of Susanna White, one of the Mayflower 'mothers', I recalled that settlement meeting and our member who described so well her lineage to Susanna White. Our speaker might be found in our own number!!

In short order we were able to persuade her to speak, developing her own script, and composed a broad background presentation including images and dialogue to support what was the highlight of the program as Mrs. Lynda Bayless portrayed Susanna White and recounted her journey to Plymouth on the Mayflower. It was fabulous and received with solid applause. There is so much to be discovered in really getting to know your fellow members!

*John McNeill  
Redwood Empire Colony, Governor*



### Monterey Bay Colony

Monterey Bay Colony held our Spring Luncheon at the San Benito County Historical Park near Hollister on May 20<sup>th</sup>. It was a beautiful setting on a warm spring country day in the California sunshine. We met in the historical Dunneville Dancehall. Many thanks to Treasurer Karen Craig for decorating the Hall to Mayflower standards.



*Dunneville Dance Hall*

We maintained our pilgrim traditions as Elder Bob Hellam read the Pilgrims Pledge and Secretary Bob Roberts held the roll call of ancestors. William Brewster won again!



Members enjoyed a barbeque lunch of tritip, chicken, beans, and bread. Our cake welcomed Monterey to San Benito County.



*Barbeque Lunch*

We were treated to a concert by the South Bay Trombone Choir courtesy of Assistant Governor Shelley Ware. The Choir performed historical tunes



*South Bay Trombone Choir*

for each decade beginning in the 1800's. Songs included Dixie, one of Abraham Lincoln's favorites, and John Philip Sousa's first march from the turn of the century. A history of each song was presented prior to the each performance. It was great!



*Phoebe  
Honorary Tour Guide*

We followed up the luncheon with a walking tour of the park. Our honorary tour guide was Phoebe the dog. Her owner Secretary Bob Roberts also provided a golf cart from his company to provide



*Saloon*

transport for some members.

All the buildings on the site were relocated from somewhere in the area including the saloon, the schoolhouse, and Sullivan House.





*Angelina, Angelyssa, and Aniyah Gutierrez  
Governor's Granddaughters*



*Sullivan House*



*Schoolhouse*

*John Reed  
Monterey Bay Colony, Governor*

### Los Angeles Colony

The Los Angeles Colony held a meeting at the Los Angeles FamilySearch Center on April 22. This location gave members the opportunity to do some research before and after the meeting and luncheon. The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m.

The Invocation was given by Elder Cynthia Carver-Svezia and the Pledge of Allegiance led by



*Los Angeles Colony Officers being sworn in from left to right: Elder Cynthia Carver-Svezia, Surgeon Judy Law-Torok, Assistant Governor Jan Dougall, Governor Dr. Robert Lincoln, Treasurer Susan Daniels, Secretary Sharon Brewster, and Captain Kimberlee Bradford*

Captain Kimberlee Bradford. Three relatively new members (Susan Hanks, Sharon Brewster, and Judy Law-Torok) were welcomed. Colony Board members along with past State Governor Marcia Maloney and past Colony Governor Cal Cahoon were introduced. Secretary Jan Dougall read aloud the

minutes from the November 5, 2022, membership meeting which were approved by acclamation. Treasurer Susan Daniels reported on the colony receipts and disbursements and her report was approved by acclamation. Elder Cynthia Carver-Svezia reported members who had passed away since the last meeting: Bradley Smith and Carolyn Du Brin. I gave a short introduction on the conditions and reasons our ancestors needed to write the Mayflower Compact before reading it aloud. As members, we all have listened to readings of the Compact on numerous occasions in our comfortable modern settings, but I encourage us all to really focus on trying to understand their situation.

Nominating Committee Chair Jan Dougall thanked members Cynthia Carver-Svezia and Kimberlee Bradford for their work on this effort. The slate of candidates was introduced. Nominations were sought for the position of Secretary, which Sharon Brewster agreed to accept.

The following were unanimously elected to their office: Dr. Robert Lincoln – Colony Governor, Jan Dougall – Assistant Colony Governor, Sharon Brewster – Secretary, Susan Daniels – Treasurer, Cynthia Carver-Svezia - Elder, Heather Porter – Colony Membership Chair, Kimberlee Bradford – Captain, and Judy Law-Torok – Surgeon. I'm especially happy that we have three new members to the LA Colony Board (Sharon, Heather, and Judy). We also may be the only Board of any Mayflower Descendants organization with both a Bradford and a Brewster. Past California Society Governor Marcia Maloney installed the officers. Jan and I conducted the Roll Call of Ancestors with twenty-one Mayflower families represented.

We then broke for a very fine catered lunch by Stratos. Past California Society Governor Marcia Maloney presented *Children of the Mayflower*. Her ancestor Richard More was only six during the voyage and he and his three siblings were unaccompanied by parents. It had long been thought they'd been London street urchins, but later research revealed that their father did not believe the children were his, so he paid for their transport without informing his wife, their mother. Three of the More children died that first winter, but Richard survived. Marcia then asked members to share what they knew of their Mayflower children passenger ancestors, initiating some well-received stories. We often focus on the leaders of Plymouth and may not know that of the 102 passengers on the Mayflower, thirty of them were children. Imagining the more than thirteen weeks in that small ship with that many children, makes the journey even more remarkable. The Plymouth Colony was unique in this aspect of having families. Twenty-five children survived that first winter so nearly half the colony was under 18 years old that spring. Many lived long lives and greatly contributed to the future of the colony.



*Past State Governor Marcia Maloney giving her Children of the Mayflower presentation with special focus on Richard More, her ancestor.*

A group reading of the Pilgrims' Pledge was led by newly elected Assistant Governor Jan Dougall. The Benediction was given by Elder Cynthia Carver-Svezia and the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the Los Angeles Colony will our Compact Day Celebration at the Tam O'Shanter on Los Feliz Blvd on November 11. The Tam O'Shanter always provides a wonderful atmosphere and great food. Our featured speaker will be author Donna Watkins. She is the author of two books about Plymouth Colony: *Diverse Gashes: Governor William Bradford, Alice Bishop, and the Murder of Martha Clark, Plymouth Colony, 1648*, and *Weaker Vessels, the Women and Children of Plymouth Colony*. She will speak to us on "Law and Order in Plymouth Colony" with a special connection to the Mayflower Compact part in that. I have heard her speak at the San Diego and Foothill Colonies on different subjects and much enjoyed her presentations. Save the date of November 11 for this event.

*Dr. Robert Lincoln, Ph.D.  
Los Angeles Colony, Governor*



## Sequoia Colony

The Sequoia Colony held our summer meeting on June 24, 2023, at the beautiful Allied Arts Guild in Menlo Park, California. There were 20 attendees. Newly elected California State Governor Kathleen Watson read the compact. Newly elected California Deputy Governor North and Sequoia Colony Membership Chair Diane Douglass conducted the ancestral roll call. Our



20 attendees recorded a total of 63 descents from 23 passengers.

Sequoia Colony Governor



Sharon Winslow Erickson led a round table discussion of favorite stories about our ancestors. One of the best things about genealogy is discovering not just a name or a place, but a good story. The second-best thing is being able to share that story with your family and others. Last summer, we had a roundtable discussion about a favorite ancestor. It was great fun and drew requests for a repeat. So, this year we requested volunteers to pick one good story about their historical family. Several members offered interesting stories about their ancestors, which ended up including some interesting coincidences and a good dose of early American history. A good time was had by all.

The next Sequoia Colony meeting will be on November 18, 2023.

*Sharon Winslow Erickson  
Sequoia Colony, Governor*

## San Joaquin Valley Colony

The June 3, 2023, San Joaquin Valley Colony luncheon meeting was held at Sunnyside Country Club, led by Governor Dianna Saario. After the business portion of the meeting, a Remembrance of John Erb and Bonnie Shakespeare was read. Both were active, long time members. A special treat on our agenda was having Jordan Garcia, a John Alden descendant, and winner of one of the California State Mayflower Society Scholarships, read his winning essay. Jordan is the son of member Maryann Garcia and will be attending Cornell University in the fall. What a pleasure and inspiration to hear from the “next generation”!

As announced in the Spring edition of the California Mayflower Quarterly, our program featured speakers were author, artist, and visual historian, Karen Rinaldo, known for her renowned accurate portrayal of “The First Thanksgiving” and co-author Kevin Doyle, a retired combat veteran, Revolutionary War historian and author. These two talented and dynamic people did not disappoint! Their presentation “On the Road to the Mayflower” took us on a visual tour from Leiden and the tulip fields to The First Thanksgiving, and the Wampanoag Tribe.

Photographs had us walking in the footsteps of the Pilgrims along the canals and buildings of Leiden with a journey through historic sites the Pilgrims saw daily. Karen shared “behind the scenes” stories of creating The First Thanksgiving painting, including early sketches, and the in-depth research for credible authenticity. Karen and Kevin recounted the challenges and accomplishments of the 53 survivors of the voyage that shaped the course of Colonial and indigenous history. This presentation was chock full of historical information, great stories and was truly enjoyed by all.

An added feature was the large banner depicting the painting and a reference key which made for a great photo moment as people identified their ancestor(s). In keeping with our program theme, our table décor included tulips, pieces of Quahog shells brought from the beaches of Cape Cod, and a photo of Karen and Kevin with Wampanoag Chief Flying Eagle and his daughters. Everyone received a postcard size print of The First Thanksgiving and a few Quahog shell wampum beads. A book signing and group photo followed our meeting adjournment.



We are planning an Ancestor Workshop for September. Our Compact meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2023, with Caleb Johnson as our featured speaker.

Note: Our Zoom offering sustained glitches that have since been remedied. We apologize for the inconvenience and disappointment you may have encountered.

*Diana Saario  
Assistant Historian*

### **Rancho Conejo Colony**

The Rancho Conejo Colony had a jam packed meeting Saturday, May 6 at Los Robles Greens in Thousand Oaks. It was a pleasure to welcome 38 attendees, including Deputy Governor South, Los Angeles Colony Governor Dr. Robert Lincoln and 2 new members Lynnette Moore (George Soule) and Dawn Knowles (William Brewster)!

We were blessed to have the Goulart siblings with us as well. Nicole is a Rancho Conejo member and the 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner in the State Scholarship Competition in 2019! She just graduated from Grand Canyon University with honors with a BS in Biological Sciences! Her brother Grant took 3<sup>rd</sup> place last year and has finished his freshman year at GCU in Engineering with straight A's! And younger brother Mason earned 4<sup>th</sup> place this year, he recently graduated from high school and is headed to community college! A trifecta for the Goulart family, we appreciate their hard work and are SO proud of them for representing the Colony admirably! Unable to attend was Colin Martin, grandson of colony member Sharon Martin, he won 3<sup>rd</sup> place this year, we are grateful for his endeavor as well! Clearly we are ardent supporters of the State Scholarship Competition and the amazing efforts of Larry Beston. Thanks Larry!



This is a good time for an update on our new colony scholarship, The Robert E Dempster Memorial Scholarship, in honor of our founding father and dear friend who we lost last summer. Our competition is geared to our community at large, we will announce it to



*Membership Chair Don Morris introduced new members Lynnette Moore and Dawn Knowles*

local schools this summer and hope to award our first \$3000 scholarship to a deserving high school senior in March. Further information in my next missive.

Our 'My Mayflower Ancestor' presentation this meeting was given by Lorraine Kocen, John Howland's 10G Granddaughter! He was described by William Bradford as a 'lusty young man'! Thank goodness he was saved when he fell overboard during a storm; he and his wife (fellow Mayflower passenger Elizabeth Tilley) had 10 children who all lived to adulthood, when she died Elizabeth had 86 grandchildren! Many of us wouldn't be here (including me) if it weren't for that well

deployed boat-hook! Lorraine's colorful presentation was enjoyed by all!

"FROM PADRES TO PEARLS: SPANISH INFLUENCE on the COLONIAL ATLANTIC SEABOARD" was the topic of our speaker Dr. Michaela Reaves, history

professor at Cal Lutheran University. She was engaging and the topic really piqued our interest! I think it's safe to say everyone learned a lot!



*Introducing our future member, Daisy Corsini! My granddaughter!*

We have an outing planned for July 1, a group of us are going to the Antaeus Theatre in Glendale to see 'The Tempest'. It is speculated that the character "Stephano" is based on the Mayflower's own Stephen Hopkins who famously was shipwrecked on Bermuda. It'll be interesting to see how Shakespeare treats the event and our forebearer!

The Rancho Conejo Colony will meet again on Saturday, 26 August in Thousand Oaks. I hope you enjoy a languid summer.



*Happy 91st birthday to Lolita Smith!*



*Our State Scholarship trifecta, the Goulart siblings!*

*Tawny Welch  
Rancho Conejo Colony, Governor*



### The Santa Barbara Colony

The Santa Barbara Colony welcomed Governor Scott Miller who provided a great program and installed the new officers! Jay Williams accepted the gavel and medal from Ray Garrett! The meeting was connected by zoom from two locations! Our members in San Luis Obispo County love their meeting room in Arroyo Grande! Our Santa Barbara contingent enjoyed by host Jay Williams. Scott's Bradford Book program came thru very nice on zoom and was well received! Looking forward to our next meeting on October 28, 2023.



*Jay Williams*

*Ray Garrett  
Santa Barbara Colony, Governor*

### Inland Empire Colony

Governor Susan Christopher welcomed the members and guests including California State Governor, Scott Miller and Donna Walker, our speaker. Susan welcomed and presented gifts to our new members Lawrence Schurtz and Jim Schurtz. For the Mayflower Moment, Governor Christopher discussed the whereabouts of the Silver Books which have been donated by our Colony to any area libraries. Hemet Library has their books and the Sun City/ Menefee library gave their copies to the area Genealogical Society. Both the minutes for the November meeting read by Cheryl Ralston Staples and the treasurer report given by Wayne Staple, Treasurer were approved.

Susan announced the death of our long-time member, David Grinnell. David who was so generous with his time and expertise for many of our members seeking their Mayflower connection. Wayne Staple made a motion to contribute \$1,000 to the state scholarship fund in David's memory. The motion was seconded by Cheryl Ralston Staples and unanimously passed by the membership.

Elder Carol Mardersian gave the blessing, and we enjoyed an Italian lunch.



***New Officers Installation L-R:***  
*Carol Marderosain; Elder, Sarah Schiller; Recording Secretary, Susan Christopher; Treasurer & Past Colony Governor, Pam Mikkelsen; Governor, Scott Miller; California State Governor*

The meeting resumed by our speaker Donna Watkins, author of “Diverse Gashes” and “Weaker Vessels”. She is the ninth-great-granddaughter of Alice Bishop who confessed to the brutal murder of her four -year-old daughter, Martha Bishop. This happened in Playne Dealing, a neighborhood on the outskirts of Plymouth Colony in 1648 ( 28 years after the 1620 landing of the Mayflower). Alice Bishop was the first and only woman in Plymouth Colony to be hanged. Watkins wrote these books in 2020 not to celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower, but to question the values and beliefs in the mid 1600’s. She shared her program “The Children of Plymouth Colony”.



*Speaker – Donna Walker*

Kim Pike conducted the Ancestor roll call. William Brewster won with 5 descendants. Sahar Schiller answered the trivia question correctly and won a free lunch.

Elections were held for the new Colony officers and California State Governor, Scott Miller delivered the Oath of Office to the following: Governor – Pam Mikkelsen; Treasurer – Susan Christopher; Recording Secretary –

Sarah Schiller; and Elder – Carol Mardersian.

Absent: Assistant Governor, Ben Hobbins and Membership Secretary, Sheila Bostater. Susan thanked the outgoing officers with thank you gifts from the Colony. Then a moment of silence for David Grinnell who passed on April 8, 2023.

The gavel was handed over to the new Governor, Pam Mikkelsen who on behalf of the membership presented Susan Christopher with a Past Colony Governor Medal and guard. We thanked Susan for her leadership for the past 4 years during the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mayflower arrival and the First Thanksgiving. I also wish to recognize and thank Wayne Staples for his 10 years as Colony Treasurer and Cheryl Ralston Staples for 8 years as the Colony Recording Secretary. As William Bradford said, “As one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shone unto many, yea in some sort to our whole nation”. Your leadership has kept the candle aglow. Thank you.

It was an honor to represent our colony at The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of California Biennial Membership Meeting on June 17, 2023 in Emeryville, CA. It was nice to meet both the incoming and outgoing California State Officers. George Garmany, MD from Northern Colorado who served as Governor General of the General Society from 2017 to 2020 presented a program called “Captivity: Terrorism at the turn of the Eighteenth Century” which covered various New England conflicts and wars. On behalf of the Inland Empire Colony, it was my pleasure to present a check in the amount of \$1,000 to California State Governor, Scott Miller for a “David Grinnell Scholarship” in honor of his contributions to the Mayflower Society.

See you on September 23, 2023, for our next gathering.

*Pam Mikkelsen  
Inland Empire Colony, Governor*



*Presentation of “David Grinnell Scholarship” check by Pam Mikkelsen, Inland Empire Colony Governor to Scott Miller, California State Governor*

## Orange County Colony

We had a wonderful meeting on April 22, 2023 at the Santa Ana Elks Club. We enjoyed the presentation *“A Woman’s Place is in the Brewery”* The program was presented by Tara Nuriin.

### Our OC County Colony Scholarship Winners were announced!

Michael Serfes announced the 2023 scholarship winners:

**Kelsie Jasper** - \$1600

**Madison Grogan** - \$1200

**Ava Kuszak** - \$700

**Lilyanna Larson** - \$250

### Welcome New Members

Deputy Governor Nancy Konkolewski introduced 3 new Orange County Colony members

Diane Parker Andrew – William Brewster

Catherine Major – John Howland

Susan Willams – Thomas Rogers



**Lisa Cole Shaw**

*July 15, 2023 Summer Gathering at Lisa Cole Shaw’s Home Flyer was sent out Please RSVP to Lshaw10@cox.net*

**Our Colony attended the OC Scottish Fest** and set up the table and had 8 volunteers signed up to man the table. Thank you to Nancy Konkolewski , Everette Konkolewski, Donna Cole, Dale Hardgrass, Marcia Maloney, Mandy Dunkle, Deidra Adams and Robert Lincoln. They enjoyed the fair and working our table. We had about 21 sign up that were interested in pursuing their Mayflower line.



*Everett & Nancy  
Konkolewski*



*Robert Lincoln & Nancy  
Konkolewski*



*Dona Cole, Marcia Maloney & Mandy Dunkle*

I attended our State BOA and General Membership meeting June 17th, 2023. Our OC Colony was awarded the Gene Fortine Education Award! I want to thank our Colony Members for all your contributions to make this possible. We have a great Colony!! Scott Miller passed the gavel to Kathleen Watson as our new State Governor. Former Governor General George Garmany spoke on “New England Captivities-Terrorism at the Turn of the 18th Century”





*Kathleen Watson &  
Scott Miller*

*George Garmany*

**Please save the date for our November Compact Meeting on November 18th, 2023.**

*Lisa Cole Shaw  
Orange County Colony, Governor*

### San Francisco Peninsula Colony

Members of the San Francisco Peninsula Colony attended the membership meeting in lieu of a Colony meeting scheduled for June 10, just one week before. The next San Francisco Peninsula Colony event will be the Compact Day event with Alameda and Redwood Empire Colonies on Saturday, November 18 at The Club Restaurant in McInnis Park, San Rafael.



*Seated L-R: Nancy Foley, Susan Sweeny, Marston Watson.  
Standing L-R: Pat Friesen, Kathy Watson, Dianne Sweeny, Virginia Rood (Alameda),  
Maggie Kane (Alameda), Eunice Brabec.*

*Kathy Watson  
San Francisco Peninsula Colony, Governor*

## San Diego Colony

The San Diego Colony enthusiastically welcomed **Dr. Susan Hector** to our May 20th meeting at The Green Dragon Tavern and Museum. As I have previously written, Susan has been spinning and weaving for 40 years.



Her program gave us a comprehensive presentation on the history of **"Textile Production in the American Colonies 1620 – 1783"** As well as her PowerPoint presentation, Susan brought exhibits.

Those including her spinning wheel, flax and other items, that gave us a thorough understanding of the subject. Ever generous with her time, after her lecture she demon-

strated spinning and answered questions which were numerous.



One of the blessings of living in the world today is not having to grow flax, spin, weave, and sew as part of our daily duties!

**At our meeting we welcomed our Colony Scholarship Winner, Allison Kerth.**

Our winner received her certificate from State Junior Membership Chair Amy Conboy. Allison was awarded \$1000.00 for her winning essay written on the topic: "From the perspective of a child or teenage Pilgrim in 1625 Plymouth Colony, write a letter to a relative or friend in England or Holland describing your experiences in North America".

Her letter was a joy to read and even looked colonial!



We were also treated to a wonderful display and brief lecture on **Antique Guns** of the period by past Governor Kathleen Loftman and her husband Russel.

Our members truly relished the **delicious brunch** that was served. This was our last meeting until November, and everyone wanted to socialize and discuss travel plans for vacations and upcoming Mayflower events. We were also reviewing last minute details for the **La Mesa Flag Day Parade** which is a very enjoyable event. We were all dressed in period attire and handed out flags, flag pins and flag beads to the many children along the parade route. Some adults received them as well! This event is such a nice way to show who we are and to participate in such a family friendly event that is just the right length. Several other lineage societies were in the parade with many members that we know. The SAR was represented, the DAR, The Union Veterans and others. We all made quite a big show of preserving history and having fun.



Our Colony is looking forward to our *Plymouth Plantation Revisited* event at Balboa Park in October, which draws a large number of visitors. This event gives us another opportunity to share the history of the Pilgrim story, play act, and increase our membership.



*Judith Reale  
San Diego Colony, Governor*

### Alameda Colony

On Saturday, April 22, 2023, the regular meeting of the Alameda Colony was called to order by Colony Governor Sally Philbin at Round Table Pizza Clubhouse in Concord, CA. We enjoyed pizza and soft drinks. The Invocation was given by Elder Reverend Marsha Davis followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The reading of the Mayflower Compact was done by Linda Von Studnitz, a new member. Bob Trapp reported that the Colony had one new member, Linda Von Studnitz and gave her a pin for her attending her first meeting. Roll Call of Ancestors was done by Bob Trapp. John Howland had the most descendants at the meeting with four. The meeting broke for lunch after the Roll Call of Ancestors.

After lunch, Sally Philbin, Governor, introduced the speaker, Kathy Watson, Deputy Governor North and Governor San Francisco Bay Colony who gave an interesting program on The Life and Times of Pilgrim Stephen Hopkins. Nancy Lucchese, reported that Bob Trapp, as a member of the California Genealogical Society Special Interest Group Mayflower, conducted a class about the Mayflower Society and how to join. For those interested in coming to the library, Alameda Colony members should call Nancy Lucchese to set days and times available. When the library is not open, please call and leave a name and phone number. Library location: 2201 Basement level, Broadway, Oakland, CA. Phone: (510) 451-9599

Governor Philbin announced that next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2023 with location and program yet to be determined. On November 18, 2023, Redwood Empire Colony will be hosting the Compact Day meeting at The Club at McGinnes Park.

Rev. Marsha Davis gave the benediction. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m. by Governor Philbin.

*Sally Philbin  
Alameda Colony, Governor*

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### *Mayflower Indexing: Preserving the Legacy*

The General Society is developing an indexing platform to digitally capture 400 years of life events for every generation of Mayflower ancestors. This platform is in the final stages of development; testing with volunteer indexing begins soon. Members have volunteered to index the applications in their spare time.

This new platform replaces the current manual system with a fully digitized application and documentation system which will enhance access for Plymouth staff and member society historians. GSMD is seeking volunteers to view previously approved applications on a desktop computer or laptop using Chrome, Safari, Edge, or Firefox browsers. Then enter that data in a form on the indexing platform.



To volunteer, or to ask questions about volunteering, please contact Ms. Chris Schlosser, Technology Committee Chair at : [TechCommittee@themayflowersociety.org](mailto:TechCommittee@themayflowersociety.org).



### **Plymouth in September 2023**

**Final day for registration is July 15th.**

If you are registered to attend please let DGG Scott Miller know so he can put you down as a member of the California delegation. We will be voting on bylaws and general society officers.

#### **Notice Regarding The Complimentary Disneyland Tickets**

If you or someone you know was the recipient of the Disneyland tickets that the Inland Empire Colony received for our participation in The 2020 Rosebowl Parade, please contact me for replacement tickets.

The tickets you may be holding are not valid. Disney has sent me new tickets, so I am trying to locate those with the invalid tickets to replace them.

Contact Susan Christopher  
[Schristopher48@yahoo.com](mailto:Schristopher48@yahoo.com)

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*David Lawrence Grinnell*

We are honoring our past state treasurer David Grinnell by sharing some of his life story with you. We appreciate the hours of work he has done on a volunteer basis over his years as our state treasurer and appreciate his willingness to keep working with us in other positions.

David Lawrence Grinnell was born in Newport, Rhode Island on September 17, 1943. He attended elementary school, junior high and senior high schools in Newport, graduating from Rogers High School in 1962. After a sojourn in Washington, DC, David came back to Rhode Island to attend Bryant College in Providence, from which he graduated in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. After working in public accounting for a few years, David decided to try his religious vocation, attending Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, New York for three years. Although that experience didn't develop into Life Vows, it did teach him important spiritual values which he tries to maintain to the present day.

After leaving the Monastery, David again returned to Rhode Island to pursue his career in accounting, working first for the City of Newport, and then for an inpatient drug and alcohol rehabilitation Center. In 1976, after several attempts to stop drinking on his own, David joined Alcoholics Anonymous and began a totally new chapter in his life. After two years of sobriety, David married a girl he met in AA, Janice Louise Lauver. He and Jan were married for 15 years; they had a son, Nathan David Grinnell born in April 1980 and a daughter Jodi Michol Grinnell, born in February 1982. Today, David is the proud grandfather of two wonderful, spirit-filled children, Ryder Holmes Grinnell and Lila Collins Grinnell. David's son and his wife and the two grandchildren live in Georgia; David's daughter, recently married, lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In 1993, David and Jan were divorced; through the steps in AA, they realized that they were living a lifestyle that was contrary to what their Higher Power had intended. David began yet another chapter in his life. During the summer of 2002, David met a man at a Men's Retreat and after months of traveling back and forth between Rhode Island and Buffalo, New York, they decided to make a commitment to each other. In September 2008, they were legally married in Indio, California and in October 2009 they moved from Rhode Island to Palm Springs, California. David immediately became involved with a local Sons of the American Revolution Chapter and with the Inland Empire Colony, California Society of Mayflower Descendants.

He became Treasurer of both groups as well as the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio. At the State Membership Meeting, held on the Queen Mary on June 15, 2013 David unofficially became the State Treasurer and at the next Membership Meeting, was officially elected to the position. The last six years have been a period of growth for the Society as well as for David. He has had the privilege and honor of working with three past State Governors, each with their own unique leadership style.



The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of California is on the brink of another period of growth as the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower approaches. The previous Boards of Assistants have successfully gotten us to this point and it's time now for new leadership including a new Treasurer. David belongs to over 40 lineage societies, in addition to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants; including The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution; The Society of the Cincinnati; The Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States; the Order of the Norman Conquest; The Merovingian Dynasty; The Baronial Order of Magna Charta; Order of the Descendants of the Justiciars; Descendants of Lady Godiva; National Guild of Saint Margaret of Scotland; National Society of Saints and Sinners; The Order of Alba; Order of the Kings of Wessex; and the Order of the Monarchs of Rheims. May God Bless The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of California and its new Leadership team.



*Victor, David's husband; Jaclyn, his daughter-in-law; Jodi the bride, his daughter, Nathan in the back, his son; Justin, my new son-in-law with his hand on Lila, David's granddaughter; next to Justin, David with his hand on Ryder, his grandson*

### ***"Leave a Legacy"***

Planned gifts are an excellent way to leave a meaningful legacy to California Society of Mayflower Descendants. Your generous gift will aid in genealogical research, educate young scholars, and preserve and protect documents. When you remember the California Society of Mayflower Descendants in your will or trust, or as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy, or as part of a gift that pays you income during your lifetime, you are ensuring future connection and community among Mayflower descendants. To get started, visit the "Leave a Legacy" on our state website which contains all the details.

## *David Lawrence Grinnell Obituary*

*Published in The Desert Sun*

David Lawrence Grinnell passed quietly on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. He was born on September 17, 1943, to Clairmont and Mildred Grinnell of Newport, Rhode Island. He spent most of his life on Aquidneck Island with his family and friends. He graduated from Newport HS in 1962 and in 1966 he received his BS in Business Finance at Bryant College. He became the CFO at Codac for many years. He moved to Cranston RI in 2003 and in 2009, when he retired, moved to Palm Springs CA with his husband, Victor M Ranieri. He is survived by two children, his son, Nathan Grinnell of Georgia, two grandchildren, Ryder and Lila Grinnell also of Georgia, his daughter, Jodi Grinnell Brierly of Missouri, and his husband. He is also survived by a brother in Newport RI, Ronald Grinnell and his wife Penelope. Two other brothers, Alfred and Roger Grinnell, predeceased him. David was a member of the SAR and many other genealogical groups. His rich ancestry has many kings and queens and even Charlemagne in it. He often held an office in several of these groups, either as treasurer or registrar. David's final arrangements were made by All California Cremation and his ashes were scattered in the Pacific Ocean. He will be missed by many family members, friends and professional organizations.



### ALAMEDA COLONY

Marjorie Rolandelli 12 Jun 2022  
Wayne Paul Springsteen 17 Mar 2023

### FOOTHILL COLONY

Joy Schrader 10 Mar 2022

### INLAND EMPIRE COLONY

David Lawrence Grinnell 18 Apr 2023

### MOTHER LODE COLONY

James R. Doty  
Karri Samson May 2023

### ORANGE COUNTY COLONY

Philip Scott Inglee 4 May 2022

### RANCHO CONEJO COLONY

Charles Lombard 10 Apr 2023

### SANTA BARBARA COLONY

Ralph Clay 27 May 2023

### SEQUOIA COLONY

Bill Abbott Mar 2022



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