

ALABAMA PILGRIM

The Newsletter for the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama,
a member society of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants

www.alabamamayflowersociety.com

September 21, 2016

COMPACT DAY MEETING AND LUNCHEON

October 29, 2016 - 11:00 a.m.

Board of Assistants Meeting – 9:30 a.m.

The Club, Birmingham, Alabama

***Guest Speaker – Elder William Brewster (1566-1644) on
“Why we sailed on the Mayflower and colonized Plimoth.”***

Governor’s Highlights

Greetings before our yearly highlight Compact Day Meeting and Luncheon! SMDAL member Kathryn Porter graciously will host us at *The Club* on **Saturday, October 29** for a delicious noon meal in sight of the pleasing Birmingham skyline.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) Board of Assistants met in Indiana in September. The GSMD determinedly is pursuing its 2020 *Mayflower* commemorative Coin Initiative. As Ann Ferguson reports below, the U.S. Congress is asked to support such coinage. The coins will be sold to foster education about the Pilgrims. Also, the SMDAL Board has authorized a Cahaba River Colony (CRC) for the greater Birmingham region. CRC Lieutenant Governor Inge Tingle and the other Lieutenant Governors (Alan Davis, Capital; Jack Dwyer, Gulf Coast; and Deen Rice, Tennessee Valley) detail their Colony activities below.

Appropriately for Compact Day (because in all likelihood he wrote it), we will hear from Elder William Brewster on October 29. A principal *Mayflower* Pilgrim leader, he worked in the 1580s for Elizabeth I’s Secretary of State. Later, William and Mary Brewster hosted the Scrooby Separatist meetings. He served as the un-ordained religious

leader for the Pilgrims’ voyage into history. Elder Brewster will comment on why the Pilgrims saw fit to endure hardships at Scrooby, Leiden, Cape Cod Bay, and during their harsh first Plymouth winter.

In Mobile last May Fort Morgan Historical Site Executive Director Michael Bailey spoke to us about *Fort Bowyer and its Place in the War of 1812*. His fine presentation is summarized below.



Michael Bailey, Mobile SMDAL meeting

Finally, 2017 dues are due. See page 9 below.

Faithfully yours, Governor Ellie Lienau

CURRENT OFFICERS

Governor - Eleanor J. Lienau, 256.655.9452
Deputy Governor - Alan M. Davis, 334.270.8657
Secretary - Nancy C. Logan, 205.515.2007
Treasurer - Mary Helen Mahan, 334.395.8474
Historian – Brenda Gouge, 334.222.0347
Elder - John A. Smith, 334.272.9496
Captain - Anne T. Kilgrow, 334.669.1826
Librarian - Carol A. Kitchens, 256.748.4056
Board of Assistants Members-at-large -
Linda L. Maples, 256.534.2315
J. Michel Marcoux, 202.641.4242
Pamela J. Pittman, 334.279.7976
Former Governors - Rich Hobson, Mary Helen Mahan, Ann Ferguson, Ann King, Charlotte Hobson, Sid Leak, Mary Alice Carmichael

GENERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

Deputy Gov. General – Alan Davis, 334.270.8657
Assistant General – Ann Ferguson, 256.234.4460

The Officers serve the people of your Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama. Any time we can assist you, please let us know. We plainly need your help, input, suggestions, and support. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns. Thank you.

1814-15 Battles Protected Americans **Living Near The Gulf Of Mexico:** **Historian Addresses Our Annual** **Meeting**

Visiting with us from Fort Morgan Historical Site on Mobile Point, its Executive Director Michael Bailey spoke on May 7, 2016, to the SMDAL's Annual Meeting and Luncheon at the *Heron Lakes Country Club* in Mobile. His theme was the important role played by American Army soldiers in defeating British forces at Mobile Point in September 1814. Among other things, that victory

protected New Orleans from possible English capture.

Fort Bowyer then, Fort Morgan today. Located at the end of a peninsula at the confluence of Mobile Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, today's masonry Fort Morgan was built between 1819 and 1833. Later, it played a significant role in the 1864 Battle of Mobile Bay. However, Mr. Bailey returned us several decades further into the past to focus on a still earlier conflict and a previous installation at the site. Today's Fort Morgan was preceded by Fort Bowyer, and our speaker explained that during the War of 1812 with England, U.S. Army Colonel John Bowyer was ordered in 1813 to build the Fort that was named for him to help defend American territory bordering on the Gulf of Mexico.

The following year, 1813, U.S. Army Major William Lawrence (who is the hero here) manned Fort Bowyer with a small but vigorous force of American regular soldiers.

The first and more important battle: September 15, 1814. As a key part of Britain's campaign to capture New Orleans and nearby territory on the Gulf, in September 1814 English Navy Captain Sir William Percy, commanding *HMS Hermes* with a complement of 852 British sailors and Royal Marines, attacked Fort Bowyer. That same day, the battle turned against the British. First, Major Lawrence's Fort Bowyer artillery disabled the *Hermes*, which then ran aground. A subsequent assault by the Royal Marines failed, and they withdrew east to Pensacola. Finally, the *Hermes* blew up in an explosion heard by U.S. General Andrew Jackson in the City of Mobile miles to the west. Despite being outnumbered by about four guns to one, Major Lawrence's force won the battle, sustaining losses of four dead and five wounded while the British lost 33 dead and 40 wounded. Following Court Martial proceedings on the defeat, *Hermes* Captain Percy was not given any more Royal Navy sea commands. He later served in the English Parliament.

The first battle's important consequences. Mr. Bailey explained the far reaching consequences of that first Fort Bowyer battle. Western Florida and Mobile stayed out of British hands (although British

forces landed on Dauphin Island). English designs to attack New Orleans thus were thwarted. The victory enhanced the effectiveness of U.S. military recruiting in the South for the remainder of the conflict, *i.e.*, until the December 24, 1814, Treaty of Ghent between England and the U.S. ended Gulf of Mexico and other hostilities and restored prewar boundaries. Finally, the Mobile Point installations, Forts Bowyer and Morgan, became model 19th and early 20th century U.S. Army seacoast defensive fortifications.

The folly of the second battle (February 8-11, 1815). The often futile nature of wartime events was demonstrated when the second battle of Fort Bowyer began in February 1815. After three days, the British took control of the installation. But, the combatants were ignorant of the fact that the Treaty of Ghent had ended the War of 1812 two months before, in December 1814. After U.S. Senate treaty

approval on February 16, 1815, President James Madison exchanged ratification papers with England. Two days later, the Treaty was proclaimed. Mr. Bailey commented ruefully on the pointless second battle, which cost casualties on both sides.

Mr. Bailey concluded his expert remarks to our *Annual Meeting* audience's appreciative applause.

Jack Dwyer
Michel Marcoux

Fort Morgan Historical Site, accessed via Alabama State Highway 180 in Gulf Shores, is a National Historic Landmark and an Alabama Historical Commission property. www.preserveala.org.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Brenda Gouge

Additional Members since March 2016
(these are our data as of September 14, 2016)

NEW MEMBERS

Diane Fredrica (Lemon) Cuicchi AL#555 GS 89864 - 10th in descent from William Bradford

John Wayne Barnard AL#556 GS 89913 - 11th in descent from John Alden

James Roger McCay AL#557 GS 88144 - 14th in descent from Richard Warren – **Transfer – Texas**

Rebecca Elizabeth (Morgan) Sample AL#558 GS 66851 - 13th in descent from Peter Brown(e) – **Transfer – South Carolina**

John Leo House AL#559 GS 90280 - 11th in descent from Richard Warren

Mark Frederick Chesebro AL#560 GS 90326 - 12th in descent Richard Warren

Laura Lee (Lippert) Roberts AL#561 GS 90327 - 12th in descent from Francis Cooke

Mary Nell Norman Duffell AL#562 GS 90339 – 13th in descent from Stephen Hopkins

Laura Sophia Pettis McCay AL#563 GS 90359 – 13th in descent from Richard Warren

Mary Lucy Welch McGuffey AL#564 GS 90360 - 12th in descent from Stephen Hopkins

Robyn Morgan Sample AL#565 GS 66853 – 14th in descent from Peter Brown(e) – **Transfer – South Carolina**

Janice Lee Scruggs Smith AL#566 GS 90387 – 13th in descent from Stephen Hopkins

Susan Shayne Penhall Stetsky AL#567 GS 90388 – 14th in descent from John Alden

SUPPLEMENTALS

Please contact me about any Supplemental Applications you are submitting. The Plymouth Staff have agreed to work with us to facilitate such Applications expeditiously.

OVERVIEW

Some 28 applications have been sent to Plymouth since May, with ten of those approved and 18 pending there. Three applications that have been in Plymouth since before 2013 are now being worked on again, with the documentation requested being sent. Three transfers into Alabama have occurred since May, and work is ongoing on one other transfer (from Canada). Finally, some 20 applications are in various stages of progress – either being typed or out for signature.

This past spring, the SMDAL Officers contacted 72 people who had expressed interest but not yet applied or joined and encouraged them to proceed. Some 30 of those people are in process and others are gathering documentation. Contact information was out of date for about the same number of people as were thus contacted. Several more people have said they remain interested in applying and will provide their information.

Thanks very much to Marti Bobertz in Plymouth and South Carolina Historian Nick Maher, who kindly have provided helpful answers to various questions in recent months.

Finally, those currently anticipating news of their application status at Plymouth have been mailed Stress Squeeze Balls with painted happy faces -- for use while waiting!

ELDER'S REPORT **IN MEMORIAM** **John A. Smith**

August 18, 2016, **Mrs. Heather May (Clarke) Comer** AL#428L GS 23198, a Gulf Coast Colony member and a life member, she was eighth in

descent from Edward Doty. Born on May 30, 1925, she is survived by two sons, Jeffrey B. Comer (Becky) of Montrose, Alabama, and Peter B. Comer (Susan) of Pensacola, Florida, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

N.B., in some cases, *in memoriam* information regrettably may be incomplete, or some members may have been reported in the *Newsletter* previously. Unfortunately, complete information often does not reach the Alabama Society when a death occurs. In many cases, it is well after the fact that we learn of a death. Current Members would be very thoughtful to tell your families to notify the Secretary or Treasurer or one of the other State or Colony Officers when the time comes.

Finally, would all Colonies please notify me of the death of any members? Send such notifications to me at miadotdot@knology.net, with the following information: Name, Colony, GSMD Number, SMDAL Number, Ancestor Descended From, Date of Death, Obituary if available. John Alonzo Smith, Elder, SMDAL, 3112 Oak Ridge Court, Montgomery, Alabama, 36109-3551. Telephone: 334-202-7040.

A SPECIAL NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

We extend our warmest welcome to the 13 new Alabama Mayflower Society members listed above. *You are our fellow relatives, and we very much wish to greet you in Birmingham on Saturday, October 29!*

DEPUTY GOVERNOR **GENERAL REPORT** **by Alan Davis**

Well, the GSMD's General Board of Assistants Meeting in Indianapolis went off without a hitch. There are two proposed changes to the General By-Laws to be presented at the September 8-13, 2017, GSMD Congress in Plymouth. The first is

changing the word "state" society to "member" society to accommodate a world-wide GSMD membership. The second is to add verbiage to General By-Laws, Article X, Section 1, *Nominating Committee*, which concerns e-mail procedures and the *Mayflower Quarterly*. There also is a change (from last year's Connecticut meeting) to Article V, Section. 5, about election of Members-at-Large at the Congress meetings. Also, we approved membership for a Society in Europe with 15

members on the condition that they add a required additional five members in a prescribed time period. Over its history, the GSMD has exceeded 90,000 members (to date this year). It has some 29,000 current members. But, for the latter number it only has about 3,100 e-mail addresses to facilitate member contact. The hope was expressed that the general membership would modernize with the times. We did get a little bogged down with Policies, but we managed to muddle through, and get off in time for dinner. Finally, there were some SMDAL-related, gratifying surprises. Your Assistant General, Ann Ferguson, received a GSMD *Certificate of Appreciation* from Governor General Lea Filson for

participating in this summer's Washington, D.C., lobbying effort, along with several others who braved the heat to wear the Pilgrim costumes to advocate for the 2020 Coin. And, your DGG was awarded a *Certificate of Appreciation*, after being nominated by his State, as well as the *GSMD David Lambert Volunteer Award*, for providing the GSMD with a template for Membership Charters -- both awards were a pleasant surprise. Darlene and I had a good time in Indiana and capped off the weekend with a tour of the Corvette Museum and Assembly Plant in Bowling Green Kentucky.

General Board of Assistants Meet in Indianapolis **By Assistant General Ann Ferguson**

The 2016 General Board of Assistants meeting was held September 10, 2016, at the historic Columbia Club in Indianapolis, Indiana. It was hosted by the Indiana Society of Mayflower Descendants in celebration of their 100th anniversary as well as the Bicentennial of the State of Indiana. Alabama was represented by Deputy Governor General Alan Davis and Assistant General Ann Ferguson, and Governor Ellie Lienau also attended (they are pictured just below).



Highlights included:

The 90,000th member has now been admitted to the GSMD; The Cry of a Stone has been published and it was encouraged that members read it; archeological projects are being conducted around Plymouth and an archeological survey will be done on our property next year; renovation has been completed on the Sarcophagus at Cole's Hill; the apartment behind the Mayflower House is being readied for rental; 1,661 original applications were submitted this past year; wait time for approval is 8-10 weeks; discounts are being pursued for DNA analysis; the

website has been updated; educational material can be found on the website under the Education and Juniors committees; the GSMD scholarship program awarded \$15,000 to four recipients this past year (these scholarship opportunities are open to each member society but they emphasized developing local scholarships also); the next Historic Sites trip will be in 2017; insignia and gifts are expanding and can be purchased on-line (numerous 2020 items are also available); the digitizing of the Silver Books and offering them on-line for subscription to libraries is being considered but they are not there yet.

The 2020 Committee reported they are working on four projects: (1) Commemorative Coin – it was requested that all GSMD members continue to contact their senators and representatives to support this initiative. Representative Bill Keating of Massachusetts has introduced a competing bill for a coin. Negotiating and compromising are anticipated; (2) Stamp – an application has been filed with the U.S. Postal Service; (3) Permanent commemorative memorial monument - \$100,000 has been authorized by the Executive Committee for a permanent 2020 monument in Plymouth; (4) Promotion of member society projects – each member society is encouraged to develop their own 2020 project.

The Treasurer General reported that although the income from higher dues increased by \$75,000, overall revenue is flat. The surplus for this budget year was \$35,000. We have \$10.1 million in assets, most in cash and investments. Every year we spend 4% from investments income. Also every year \$50,000 is set aside for Capital projects. The Mayflower House is very expensive to maintain.

New Business:

- The 2016-2017 budget was approved. It includes an expected \$32,000 increase in expenses, \$25,000 for a new data base system, and \$30,000 for a new Mayflower House feasibility study. The annual audit received a “clean opinion.”
- The By-Laws Committee proposed two amendments. Both passed and will be presented to Congress 2017 for a final vote for implementation. The first involved a change of terminology throughout the By-Laws from “state society” to “member society” and “country” to “geographic area.” The second involved changes in the Nominating Committee’s procedures.
- It was voted to investigate a procedure for voluntary payment of dues on-line.
- It was voted that supplemental bars can only be sold to members with approved supplementals for any passenger on the Mayflower (this includes wives and children).
- Three different suggestions for the design of the proposed 2020 monument were stated (a statue of an Indian teaching a Pilgrim how to plant corn; a Mayflower Compact signing bas-relief; and a sidewalk inscribed with the Pilgrim passengers’ names). The vote was to postpone a decision to the 2017 Congress, after more specific information is available.
- The First Parish Church in Plymouth is available for possession. It has the oldest continuous membership records of any church in America, going back to our ancestors. It is the 5th church building to stand where our ancestors worshipped. A minimum of a \$3 million endowment would need to be raised. It was passed to accept the donation of the church if the required endowment could be raised by Congress 2020.
- A very specific and detailed DNA policy was passed.
- It was voted that Information Days will be held at each non-Congress BOA meeting.
- Fifteen people living in the countries of the United Kingdom, France, Portugal, Ireland, Italy, and Sweden petitioned the GSMD for a charter as the Society of Mayflower

Descendants in Europe. This was passed. It will be contingent on the change in terminology in the By-Laws, referred to earlier, passing at Congress 2017 and that, within two years, there will be a minimum of 20 members.

As in years past, I will end on a personal note. One of the best side benefits of attending Board of Assistants meetings is the opportunity it gives to visit different parts of our beautiful and very diverse country. Indianapolis is reached by driving straight north all the way on I-65. The rolling hills of the Appalachians stretch from Alabama through Tennessee and Kentucky but the land flattens and broadens in Indiana and corn grows as far as the eye can see. We were informed that 90% of all popcorn is grown in Indiana. The city of Indianapolis itself is very lovely and cosmopolitan. It is second only to Washington, D.C., in the number of monuments there and has a scenic Riverwalk. It is very pedestrian and bike friendly. While there we visited the home of President Benjamin Harrison, our 23rd president, and “The Brickyard” of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. We also attended the Colts/Lions opening football game of the NFL season. From Indianapolis we drove northeast, almost to the Michigan state line, to Shipshewana, which is Amish country but also home to where many RV travel trailers are made. We were able to tour one of these factories as we are in the market for purchasing a new trailer. Before heading home we were able to visit with my father’s two cousins, aged 94 and 89, who gave me further insight into the non-Pilgrim side of the family. And finally, in Bowling Green, Kentucky, we toured the National Corvette Museum and the Corvette Assembly Plant where an average of 170 brand new specially ordered and already paid for Corvettes by their prospective owners crank up and drive off the conveyer line every day.

Alabama’s Officers Recognized at GBOA Meeting

During the Awards Ceremony at this year’s General Board of Assistants meeting, Alabama’s Deputy Governor General (DGG) Alan Davis was called to the front not once, but twice, receiving two awards.



The first, as nominated by the Alabama Society of Mayflower Descendants, was a Certificate of Commendation and Appreciation for his many years of service as DGG, Deputy Governor, Secretary, Chair of the By-Laws committee, and Lieutenant

Governor of the Capital Colony. The second award he received, presented by Governor General Lea Sinclair Filson, was the GSMD David Lambert Volunteer Award “For his efforts on behalf of the GSMD in creating a member society charter certificate template.” As Alan had previously displayed to Alabama SMD, whose charter is missing, he has created and made available to the GSMD a charter certificate template that allows any member society missing its original charter to re-create a new one. Additionally, Assistant General Ann Ferguson was among the group recognized with the Governor General’s Meritorious Service Award for volunteering to travel to Washington, D.C., on behalf of the GSMD to lobby Congress for a Mayflower 2020 Commemorative Coin.

Descendants Descend on Washington, D.C.

By Ann Ferguson, Alabama AG

On Flag Day, June 14, 2016, approximately twenty GSMD members and friends descended on Washington, D.C., in an effort to bring attention to and ask support from our Senators and Representatives for the 400th Anniversary of the Arrival of the Pilgrims Commemorative Coin initiative. Spearheaded by the GSMD's 2020 Committee, this initiative is a national effort which has been launched by Mayflower members in all 50 states to obtain a U.S. Mint coin to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrims landing in America.



The rule for getting a U.S. commemorative coin bill passed requires two-thirds of both legislative bodies to sign on as co-sponsors before it can be voted on. Dressed in historical Pilgrim attire, my sister and I were among the GSMD members visiting congressional offices, educating the staff, and asking support in co-sponsoring this legislation. She and I went to the offices of six Senators and four Representatives.

The coin bills that have been introduced in both the House and the Senate are identical – H.R. 2980 and S.1715 – and are non-partisan. Commemorative coin bills are revenue-neutral and are of no additional burden on the American taxpayer. Proceeds from the sale of the coins will be used to fund educational, scholarship, and outreach programs in all 50 states to help keep alive the incredible history of the Pilgrims. Proceeds also will be shared with the Wampanoag Nation and designated for not-for-profit organizations in Plymouth charged with educating the public about the Pilgrim and Mayflower history. The coins themselves will be a visual reminder of the Pilgrims perseverance and sacrifice and, with the writing of the Mayflower Compact, their lasting influence on self-governance and our American Constitution.



I ask you to please take a moment to contact your Congressional Representative and our two Alabama Senators, Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions, to respectfully request their support in co-sponsoring H.R. 2980 in the House and S.1715 in the Senate. You may contact them by e-mail, regular mail, or call their Washington office or their local Alabama office. Specific contact information can be obtained on each one's website. I am happy to report that my Representative, Mike Rogers, has agreed to co-sponsor H.R. 2980.

Message from the Treasurer

2017 dues are due by December 31, 2016.

Mayflower Society dues always have been due by the last day of each year for the following year. The State Society collects dues from our members and submits the General Society (GSMD) and Colony dues to the respective Treasurers. The GSMD has reporting deadlines that each State must meet. These deadlines require that we collect our dues timely. Otherwise, it is very difficult to meet our deadlines and report accurately the number of members for which we owe dues. Dues are just \$30 per year. Currently the dues to the GSMD are \$15 per member and the Colonies receive \$6 per member. Thus, the Alabama Society only retains \$9 for the operation of the State Society. Please try to get your dues in on time.

The **2017 Membership Renewal Form** is found immediately below in this *Newsletter*. Please, either "print" or "cut" it out and submit it promptly with your dues for 2017. If you are paying dues for multiple family members, you may submit just one form with the other members listed below. That includes your encouraging your non-SMDAL friends or family members to join us as Friends of the Pilgrims. See Form entry for "Friends" below. Friends of the Pilgrims is a

State Society membership category for anyone who desires to support the principles and goals of the Alabama Society of Mayflower Descendants and has a non-lineal or unproven lineage. Friends' dues are merely \$20 per year, with most of the dues going to SMDAL educational purposes. As noted, the Friends membership entry is found on the 2017 Membership Renewal Form below. Consider signing up your friends and spouses. Also, if contact information is the same there is no need to write the same information multiple times.

Please note that this Membership Renewal Form provides very important information. It is the only communication that the Alabama Society receives back from many of you each year. Please make sure that our contact information is updated and correct by filling out the requested information. *Accurate e-mail addresses are especially important.* We save many dollars and much time by sending our *Newsletters* through e-mail. An added benefit to you is that the e-mail version is in beautiful color!

We have a new colony this year serving the greater Birmingham region – the Cahaba River Colony. Our other colonies are the Tennessee Valley Colony, which usually meets in Huntsville, the Capital Colony, which meets in or near Montgomery, and the Gulf Coast Colony, which meets in Mobile or Baldwin County. As we are recording colony membership according to members' wishes or geographical locations, please make sure on your Membership Renewal Form that you circle the colony that you want to be a part of, or "None" if you do not want to join a colony. Understand that your dues pay for one colony membership, so unless you want to join more than one colony, there is no cost increase involved in choosing one colony or another. Your response on the Form is the Alabama Society's best way of knowing your intention.

Life Members – This year I am requesting that you submit a 2017 Membership Renewal Form as well so that we will know that your contact information is correct and your colony selection is as you wish it to be. If you have e-mail, you may submit it to me by e-mail. My e-mail is mhm.smdal@charter.net.

501(c)(3) Status – The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama is now officially a 501(c)(3) organization. I received notice in June 2016 that we had been approved for such status by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). You may now make tax deductible contributions to the Alabama State Society. Of course, they are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Applying for this status had been discussed for many years and the process was made much easier with the establishment of the 1023-EZ application by the IRS. The General Society had been pushing all State Societies to become officially tax exempt for several years in order to protect the status of the GSMD. Your Board of Assistants respectfully believes that this will help Alabama grow our commitment to furthering the goals and objects of our Society.

I thank you in advance for promptly paying your 2017 dues and/or submitting the 2017 Membership Renewal Form. As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact me either by phone (334-201-6070), e-mail (mhm.smdal@charter.net) or at Post Office Box 230893, Montgomery, Alabama 36123.

Respectfully submitted,

Your Treasurer, Mary Helen Mahan

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**SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN THE STATE
OF ALABAMA
2017 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

Due by December 31, 2016

____ Annual Dues (\$30)

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ 9-digit Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Circle a Colony to affiliate with (one Colony's dues are included in Annual Dues):

Cahaba River

Capital

Gulf Coast

Tennessee Valley

None

____ *Friends of the Pilgrims* Dues (\$20)

Name _____

Address if different from the above

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Relationship to AL member _____

Send check payable to SMDAL to:
Mary Helen Mahan, Treasurer
SMDAL
Post Office Box 230893
Montgomery, Alabama 36123
Cell – 334-201-6070

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The Mayflower Society

General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD)

4 Winslow Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360-3313
Founded at Plymouth in 1897

Welcome! Any person able to document their descent from one or more of the following *Mayflower* Pilgrims is eligible and welcome to apply for membership in the Mayflower Society:

John Alden	Francis Cooke	Priscilla Mullins
Bartholomew Allerton	John Cooke	William Mullins
Isaac Allerton	Edward Doty	Degory Priest
Mary (Norris) Allerton	Francis Eaton	Joseph Rogers
Mary Allerton	Samuel Eaton	Thomas Rogers
Remember Allerton	Sarah Eaton	Henry Samson
Elinor Billington	Moses Fletcher	George Soule
Francis Billington	Edward Fuller	Myles Standish
John Billington	Mrs. Edward Fuller	Elizabeth Tilley
William Bradford	Samuel Fuller	John Tilley
Love Brewster	Samuel Fuller (son of Edw.)	Joan (Hurst) Tilley
Mary Brewster	Constance Hopkins	Richard Warren
William Brewster	Elizabeth (Fisher) Hopkins	Peregrine White
Peter Browne	Giles Hopkins	Resolved White
James Chilton	Stephen Hopkins	Susanna White
Mrs. James Chilton	John Howland	William White
Mary Chilton	Richard More	Edward Winslow

Many families enjoy a tradition that they are descended from the Pilgrims, which often kindles an interest in finding out more. Sometimes, the stories of a *Mayflower* heritage are true and it is easy to document a descent. More often, the documentation is missing and must be researched and supplied to prove one's line. The good news is that advanced research techniques, improved genealogy library collections, and computerized resources have made the process easier.

Within each generation, you must provide proof of the birth, marriage, and death of the line carrier, and the birth and death of the spouse. The best vital records are the birth, marriage, and death certificates for each person. Other documentation might be published genealogies, family documents, and other official records. If you have a relative who is a GSMD member, you may be able to use their lineage documentation to help you with your own documentation research. Also, proof of lineage from the original



Pilgrims, through at least the earliest generations, can be found in the GSMD's *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations* "Silver Books." Mayflower Society memberships are handled through individual State societies, including the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama. To receive a membership application and lineage research guidance, contact the State society through which you want to apply. Contact information for the State societies is available at "Join GSMD" on the Mayflower Society website, as is a downloadable Membership brochure providing useful information: www.themayflowersociety.org.

If you want to inquire about Alabama Mayflower Society membership, or if you are an existing member and wish to encourage someone else to inquire about membership, please contact or encourage others to contact Alabama Society Historian Brenda Gouge: Home Telephone, 334.222.0347; Cell Telephone, 806-679-4314; E-Mail, bgouge@centurylink.net.

Additionally, you may telephone or e-mail the GSMD national office with membership questions: 508.746.3188; membership@themayflowersociety.org. You also may inquire at the GSMD about a possible Mayflower genealogical line using the optional "Preliminary Review Form" (\$25.00 fee) found by a link at www.themayflowersociety.org, *Membership Information*.

We publish these unapproved minutes for two reasons. The more important is so that members who were unable to attend will learn of our activities as noted at our Society's meetings. We believe you will find something of interest and will decide to attend. The other reason is so that those who attend might be better prepared to approve the minutes without having them read at the meetings, saving everyone's meeting time.



THE SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS **IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA** **Annual Meeting Minutes, May 7, 2016**

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama (SMDAL) met on Saturday, May 7, 2016, at the Heron Lake Country Club in Mobile, Alabama, courtesy of the Gulf Coast Colony. Those Officers present were: Governor Ellie Lienau, Deputy Governor, Capital Colony Lieutenant Governor, and Deputy Governor General Alan Davis, Secretary Nancy Logan, Treasurer Mary Helen Mahan, Elder John Smith, Gulf Coast Colony Lieutenant Governor Jack Dwyer, Tennessee Valley Colony Lieutenant Governor Deen Rice, Assistant Michel Marcoux, and newly-elected Historian Brenda Gouge.

Governor Ellie Lienau called the meeting to order at about 11 a.m. John Smith read the Elder's Prayer, the Mayflower Compact and The Objects. Ellie Lienau then led The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag. Roll Call was held and Ellie Lienau welcomed all

members and guests. Those present introduced themselves and any guests and stated their ancestor(s).

Minutes: The Minutes of the previous meeting were not read, as they had been published in the *Newsletter*. There were no corrections, so the minutes were approved.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

Governor – Ellie Lienau: Ellie reported on two actions from the Board of Assistants meeting held just before this meeting. Charlotte Hobson resigned as Historian and the BOA elected Brenda Gouge to fill out her term. Also, the BOA voted to accept the petition for a new colony in the Birmingham region to be called the Cahaba River Colony.

Deputy Governor – Alan Davis: Alan said that the next meeting will be held on October 29, 2016, at *The Club* in Birmingham.

Deputy Governor General – Alan Davis: Alan told us he plans to be a delegate for our State at the General Board of Assistants meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, in September 2016. Assistant General Ann Ferguson also will attend. He noted that at the General Congress in 2017 we are allowed to have four delegates.

Secretary – Nancy Logan: No report.

Treasurer – Mary Helen Mahan: Mary Helen gave a report of our finances. She noted that the document is two pages because the last report was revised due to two mistakes. That last report was reproduced. The current Treasurer's Report shows that we had income of \$5,931.50, expenses of \$4,763.00, and a balance in our main account of \$6,731.33. We received interest on our Life Dues and our CDs. The ending balance is \$20,124.25. Mary Helen is going to give the Colonies checks today for the dues for the last couple of years including 2014, 2015, and 2016. Finally, the GSMD has been insistent that we file for our Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(3) status, which has become an easier process. The BOA authorized Mary Helen to apply for the SMDAL to become such a 501(c)(3) organization.

Historian – Brenda Gouge: No report

Elder – John Smith: As far as he knows, there have been no new deaths in our Society lately.

Website – Pam Pittman: Pam said that there haven't been any changes recently and encouraged people to give her and her husband suggestions. There is a private area for members only that can be used.

Reports of Colonies:

Capital – Alan Davis: The Capital Colony meeting was held in March 12th at Wynlakes Country Club with 24 members and guests present. Mr. William Dean spoke (he is an Associate Professor of Comparative Military Studies at the Air Command and Staff College in Montgomery). He spoke about special operations during the American Revolution. The next meeting of the Capital Colony will be Saturday, August 6, 2016. The speaker will be Colonel Jeffrey Benton, on the subject of how our ancestors traveled along the federal road through Alabama.

Tennessee Valley Colony – Deen Rice: The Tennessee Valley Colony will meet next Saturday, May 12, 2016, They are touring the Veterans Museum in Huntsville as part of their meeting. Everyone was invited to join them.

Gulf Coast Colony – Jack Dwyer: Nothing to add except for what was in the *Newsletter*. They dropped one member for non-payment of dues.

Cahaba River Colony – Michel Marcoux: Michel said the CRC has its four founding initial officers. Inge Tingle is the Lieutenant Governor.

Old Business: Ellie handed out the letters to send to the two Alabama U.S. Senators and the Alabama Representatives to ask them to co-sponsor the bill to support minting a commemorative coin to recognize the 400th anniversary of the *Mayflower* landing. She also reminded people that there are individual societies for some of the Pilgrim passengers. She noted she had a letter from Governor General Lea Filson thanking us for the warm welcome she and her husband received for the SMDAL meeting which she attended in November 2015. There was a picture that she took of the SMDAL Officers present at the meeting that appeared in the *Mayflower Journal*.

There was no other old business.

New Business: Ellie reminded people of the GSMD Tour notice that had appeared in the *Newsletter*. She also had flyers for a 2016 book published by the GSMD, *The Cry of A Stone*, written by Pilgrim Robert Cushman. It can be bought through the GSMD website.

Alan Davis requested that everyone pay for their Annual Meeting meal if they have not already done so. He also requested that everyone remember to sign the attendance sheet.

The meeting was adjourned. A delicious meal and wonderful fellowship was enjoyed by all. The program was presented by Michael Bailey, the Executive Director of the Fort Morgan Historical Site, in Gulf Shores.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy C. Logan, Secretary

Colony Activities

Cahaba River Colony Is Up and Running:

Welcome to our nearly 70 Cahaba River Colony Members! For many of us, this will be a first association with a Colony. I hope that everyone stays active and participates in future Colony activities. As we embark on our journey as a new Colony, we have four initial officers: Lieutenant Governor Inge Tingle; Assistant Lieutenant Governor Nell Rose Brackett; Secretary/Treasurer Michel Marcoux; Elder Fontaine Haskell. Our first meeting is at *The Club*, in Birmingham, immediately following the Saturday, October 29, 2016, SMDAL Compact Day meeting. This meeting will be short. Our main order of business will be to form a nominating committee to present nominations for full, three (3) year term officers, including a possible fifth Member-at-Large, during our Spring 2017 Colony meeting (date and place to be determined).

If you know anyone at our central Alabama universities, colleges, museums, or other cultural institutions who would be a good speaker on early U.S. history, please tell me (inge.tingle@gmail.com) and Nell Rose Brackett (nbrackett@donscarpetone.com). As a good example for us, *see below* the Gulf Coast Colony, Spring Hill College speaker on the Pilgrims.

Inge Tingle, Lieutenant Governor

Capital Colony Recent and Upcoming Meetings:

The Capital Colony met on August 6, 2016, at Montgomery Country Club with Colonel (Ret.) Jeffrey C. Benton as its speaker. He discussed early American and Alabamian settlers, and the trials and tribulations they encountered. He also spoke on the social make-up of the Pilgrims and early settlers of the Colonies. The next Capital Colony meeting will be on Saturday, February 4, 2017, at either Montgomery Country Club or Wynlakes Country Club, with the speaker to be determined. The Capital Colony will be hosting the State Meeting in May 2017, which will take place at Wynlakes Country Club.

Alan Davis, Lieutenant Governor

Gulf Coast Colony Compact Day, November 12, 2016, Meeting:

Our Colony will meet on Saturday, November 12, at 11:30 a.m., at *Felix's Fish Camp* on the Causeway. The guest speaker will be Dr. Tim Hemmis, Assistant Professor of History, Spring Hill College, who will speak on the *Mayflower* Pilgrims. Tim is an expert on Colonial History, the *Mayflower*, the Pilgrims, and Plymouth Colony. Also, the program will feature a short discussion on purpose and significance of the *Mayflower* Compact by Dr. Jack Dwyer, Lieutenant Governor, Gulf Coast Colony. All are encouraged and welcome to attend. Bring guests, including prospective members!

Jack Dwyer, Lieutenant Governor

May 14, 2016, Tennessee Valley Colony Veterans Memorial Museum Tour:

The Tennessee Valley Colony met on Saturday, May 14, 2016, at the U.S. Veterans Memorial Museum in Huntsville, Alabama. Attending were four Colony members, one friend of the *Mayflower*, and one prospective member. *See below*.



The Huntsville Veterans Memorial Museum displays more than 30 historical military vehicles dating from World War I to the present, as well as tableaus, artifacts, and other memorabilia dating back to the Revolutionary War. Of special interest was the Ford Pygmy, which is the oldest known surviving example of the vehicles that became the Jeep. When in Huntsville, take the time to visit this jewel of a museum. You will be amazed at the artifacts that have been assembled in this small space.

The next Tennessee Valley Colony meeting will be on Saturday, October 22nd. At 10:00 a.m., we plan to tour Alabama Constitution Village, located in downtown Huntsville, with lunch following at a nearby restaurant. More details will be sent in late September.

Deen Rice, Lieutenant Governor

Visitor Emmanuel Altham's view of Plymouth, three years on: "It is well situated upon a high hill close unto the seaside...In this plantation is about twenty houses, four or five of which are very fair and pleasant, and the rest (as time will serve) shall be made better. And this town is in such manner that it makes a great street between the houses, and at the upper end of the town there is a strong fort, both by nature and art, with six pieces of reasonable good artillery mounted thereon...This town is paled about with pale of eight foot long, or thereabouts, and in the pale are three great gates.... And lastly, the town is furnished with a company of honest men..." Three Visitors to Early Plymouth, A Plimoth Plantation Publication 21, 24 (S. V. James, Jr. ed. 1963)

Emmanuel Altham arrived in Plymouth Colony as Captain of the *Little James* in 1623, aged 23 years. Such is his contemporaneous observation of Plymouth – one of his many letters to his family back in England. He died in 1636 in India, where he had established a profitable English trading post at Armagon, about 60 miles north of Madras.

Jack Dwyer

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Our Congressmen Should Co-Sponsor The *Mayflower* Coin (see Ann Ferguson's report, pages 8-9 above): SMDAL members should write to their U.S. Representative, expressing support for the GSMD *Mayflower* coin initiative to help fund our efforts to explain Pilgrim achievements to new generations. The Representative should be asked to co-sponsor H.R.2980, introduced on July 8, 2015. Contact your Representative via www.house.gov (enter zip code). We similarly should write to Alabama Senators Sessions and Shelby: The Honorable Jeff Sessions, United States Senate, 326 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-0104 & The Honorable Richard Shelby, United States Senate, 304 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-0103. *Indeed, S.1715, also introduced on July 8, 2015, was referred to Senator Shelby's Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. See the GSMD website model letters to ask your Congressmen to co-sponsor H.R.2980 & S.1715.* www.themayflowersociety.org/2020-commemoration/187-gsmd-coin-initiative-is-now-before-congress

From The Governor About 2020 Commemoration Activities: The GSMD has tasked the SMDAL to undertake at least one activity in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower landing, which will be in four years (2020). That gives us a little time to come up with what we want to do in Alabama. Please either e-mail (elienau@mchsi.com) or telephone (256.655.9452) me with your suggestions. We will discuss them at several State meetings.

Cahaba River Colony Authorized in Central Alabama: As Inge Tingle's report above indicates, four, not three, SMDAL Colonies now promote the Society's interests, *i.e.* the longstanding Capital, Gulf Coast, and Tennessee Valley Colonies, serving the Montgomery, Mobile, and Huntsville geographic regions, respectively, and, as of May 7, 2016, the new Cahaba River Colony serving the Birmingham region. To recap, this past February, Alabama Mayflower Society members petitioned the SMDAL Secretary in writing under the SMDAL Constitution/Bylaws for such a new colony. At its May meeting in Mobile, the BoA then authorized the new colony. After a period in June and July during which SMDAL members could notify the Secretary of their colony membership preferences, the new Cahaba River Colony's membership level was calculated to be nearly 70 persons (who have no additional 2016 SMDAL dues obligation).

Some GSMD News: Please note that there is a members-only location on the GSMD website, listed on the left side of the GSMD website page. www.themayflowersociety.org. To access it, use your GSMD five digit member number and provide a user name and password. You can find good and timely information there. Also, you can read *MQ Magazine* (the new *Mayflower Quarterly*) by clicking on publications.

From Librarian Carol Kitchens: If you have photographs, newspaper articles, or anything of interest concerning Alabama Mayflower Society members, please send such items to me to include in our Mayflower Scrapbook, including the event, date, location, and names of people: carolkitch@mac.com or my home mailing address, Post Office Box 239, Ranburne, Alabama 36273-0230.

From Deputy Governor Alan Davis: If anyone knows the whereabouts of the Charter and Seal, please let Alan know. amd7thcedar@charter.net.

Moving? It is important to let both Secretary Nancy Logan, nclnurse@yahoo.com, and Treasurer Mary Helen Mahan, mhm.smdal@charter.net, know any new street addresses, e-mail addresses (all), or telephone numbers to help ensure continuous SMDAL communications with you.

Replace your U.S. Mail address with your e-mail address. If you have e-mail, but nevertheless receive this newsletter by much-more-costly-to-SMDAL U.S. Mail, you can save us significant money. Let Secretary Nancy Logan, nclnurse@yahoo.com, and Treasurer Mary Helen Mahan, mhm.smdal@charter.net, have your e-mail address, please.



Society of Mayflower Descendants in Alabama Compact Day Meeting and Luncheon

Board of Assistants Meeting -- 9:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Compact Day Meeting & Luncheon: *The Club's Glen Iris Room*

1 Robert S. Smith Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35209-1263 (205.323.5821)

Guest Speaker—Elder William Brewster (1566-1644)

(introduction by Michel Marcoux)

Plimoth Colony, *circa* 1633

"Why we sailed on the Mayflower and colonized Plimoth."

Luncheon—12:00 Noon

Salad Choice: House salad

Entree Choices: Honey Pecan Chicken, marinated & fried boneless chicken breast

Vegetables: Rice Pilaf, Green Beans, Fresh Clover Honey & Toasted Pecans

Dessert: Red Velvet Cake & Pumpkin Cheesecake Custard

Rolls & Butter; Coffee, Tea, & Water

\$30.00 cost includes gratuity, & tax

R.S.V.P. BY RETURNING THE FORM ON THE
NEXT PAGE, OR BY E-MAIL, OR BY
TELEPHONING

I/we will attend the SMDAL's Compact Day Meeting and Luncheon on Saturday, October 29, 2016, at 11:00 a.m., at The Club's Glen Iris Room, Birmingham, Alabama (cost, *only* \$30.00 per person).

Name _____

_____ Yes, I/we plan to attend

_____ # Guests I am bringing (please include their names)

_____, _____, _____,

_____ Check made out to "SMDAL" enclosed

_____ Pay at the door (you will be billed if you do not cancel by Tuesday, October 25)

Return this form, or *R.S.V.P.* by E-Mail or by telephone, no later than Tuesday, October 25, 2016, to:

Alan M. Davis

7340 Old Barn Road

Montgomery, Alabama 36117-3976

E-Mail: amd7thcedar@charter.net

Telephone: 334-270-8657

Cell: 334-207-4884

Directions: West of Route 280 on 18th Street South near Vulcan Park, take Valley Avenue southwest and turn right following *The Club* signs on Clermont Avenue through the gate and up the mountain. We meet in **The Glen Iris Room**. Welcome!

Alan Davis

WE WILL GREET YOU WITH PLEASURE ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29!!!

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