

ALABAMA PILGRIM

A Newsletter for the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama
April, 2011

ANNUAL MEETING

April 30, 2011 11:00 a.m.

Wynlakes Golf and Country Club

7900 Wynlakes Boulevard, Montgomery, Alabama

Guest Speaker – Governor General Judith H. Swan
“Women of the Mayflower”

RESERVATION FORM ON LAST PAGE



Governor General, Judith H. Swan, will be the guest of honor at our Annual Meeting. Elected to this position in September, 2008, Governor Swan is the thirty-first Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and the third Californian and third woman to be Governor General.

Governor Swan has created a new GSMD Committee, Women of the Mayflower, “to look into their lives, origins and ancestry.” Governor Swan plans to focus on three areas: education, including online resources; records preservation; and the preservation of The Mayflower House.

Prior to this position, Governor Swan served as past Governor and Treasurer of the Orange County Colony of Mayflower Descendants and continues to serve the Society as Investment Chair. For the General Society, she served as Treasurer General for two three-year terms and was Co-Director and Director of the Five Generations Project. Among her other responsibilities, she is a Pilgrim Society trustee and Plimoth Plantation liaison.

Governor Swan belongs to other lineage and patriotic societies. The Mayflower Society was the first Society she joined and was the beginning of her interest in family history. An active family

history researcher, Governor Swan, in the early 1990’s, read about the Mayflower Society in a local newspaper and joined by proving a John Howland line. Subsequently, she proved four more Howland lines and one each for Bradford and Brewster.

Governor Swan was born on Martha’s Vineyard and moved to Arizona at an early age. She holds a Bachelor of Science and Master’s degrees in Business. For 22 years, Governor Swan was employed by the State of California, retiring in 2004. She served eight years on the city’s Community Service Commission for Huntington Beach, including the position of Vice-Chair.

With Southern roots and a great-grandfather who was born in Alabama, we hope that Governor Swan will feel right at home. We are honored that she has set aside time to visit Alabama and we look forward to Governor Swan’s presentation on “the Women of the Mayflower” and an update on the current happenings in Plymouth. I hope to see all of you at the Annual Meeting.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

I hope that each of you has had a very enjoyable Christmas and winter and hope the cold weather did not chill you to your bones. This beautiful spring we are having has been glorious and makes me so happy. How beautiful the flowers are that God so graciously painted our forest with. It makes me want to be outside.

I just received the March issue of The Mayflower Quarterly. It contains wonderful articles and information about our Society. My hope is that each of you will take a little time to read the issues. You will learn much about our Mayflower ancestors and what is happening in America's hometown – Plymouth. This issue has important information about the General Congress which will meet September 10-14, 2011. This is an excellent time to visit Plymouth, even if you are not an official delegate.

Again as in the last message, I want to encourage each of you to become active in your colony and to come to our state meetings. Our speakers are interesting and educational. The friendships forged through participation are invaluable. To promote the Pilgrim heritage is a big part of the objects of our Society. We learn a lot from each other when we participate and therefore have more to share with others.

From time to time, I will have members say to me that we ought to do this or that. My reply has become that "we" includes every member. Often, I will suggest that the member take on the project. We have current needs for assistance in colony leadership, education projects and junior membership projects. If you have some time and would like to get involved, the Society can certainly use your talents. Please consider what area you would like to assist with.

While I am griping a little, I would like to thank Pam and Pat Pittman for the work they have been doing on our state website - www.alabamamayflowersociety.com. Pam, a descendant of Stephen Hopkins, is a member of the Capital Colony. She and her husband, Pat volunteered to create and edit the website. They also donated the funds to keep it going for the first year. Pam and Pat have done a wonderful job with the assistance of Alan Davis and Rich Hobson, who serve on the committee. I encourage you to visit the site. If you have any suggestions or information you would like included, please let Pam hear from you. Her email is pampitt59@aol.com. Thanks, Pam and Pat for a job well done. We all appreciate our beautiful website and the work it took to accomplish it.

Please join us at Wynlakes Golf and Country Club as we welcome Governor General Swan on April 30th. The chef and his staff are planning a beautiful buffet for us.

If you have any concerns, questions, suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact me at P.O. Box 230893, Montgomery, AL 36123, 334.395.8474, or mhm.smdal@charter.net or you may phone one of your other officers. I look forward to seeing you on April 30 at Wynlakes Golf and Country Club.

Mary Helen Mahan,
Governor

OFFICERS

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Assistants – Ann Ferguson, 256.234.4460
Monte Horton, 205.798.9987
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Deen Rice, 256.533.4991

We are here to serve The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama. Anytime that we can assist you please let us know. We need your help, input, suggestions and support. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns. Thanks

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

This spring we welcome 4 new members. They are **Lisa Gale Bucklin, Angela Marie Crane, Anne Travis Kilgrow, and Anne LeBaron Kitchens**, daughter of member Carol Ann Kitchens, who was announced in October.

We are also pleased to have 2 new junior members. They are Mary Helen and Sarah Charlsie Greene, granddaughters of Carolyn Dancy Marshall Greene.

We extend a warm welcome to each of you and hope to see you on Oct. 30.

IN MEMORIUM

We mourn the death of Mary Louise French Minshull, who passed away on Friday, December 24, 2010 in Gulf Breeze, Florida. She was proud of her family heritage and served as our Governor from 1994-1997. She had transferred her membership to the Florida Society. She is survived by her children, Robert George Minshull, Jr., Warren Evans Minshull and Mary Catherine (Cathy) Minshull; who are all life members of the Alabama Society.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - STATE MEETINGS - SAVE THE DATES

April 16, 2011	Board of Assistants	Mary Helen Mahan's home 5607 Ash Grove Court, Montgomery, Al.
April 30, 2011	Annual Meeting	With Governor General Judith Swan Wynlakes Golf and Country Club Montgomery, Alabama
Nov., 2011	Compact Day	To be announced

A NEW BOOK FOR YOUR LIBRARY

Mayflower Passenger References

(from contemporary records & scholarly journals)

By Susan E. Roser

Mayflower Passenger References is a reference book written for the family researcher. For those who are new at it, or not so new, who find conflicting information and are not sure what to believe. For those who strive to properly document their *Mayflower* passengers but who may not have access to the necessary resources.

Mayflower Passenger References contains the references to each passenger found in early New England contemporary records and sources. The author has gone back to the original 17th century sources to compile what was actually known and written about each passenger at the time they lived. The researcher

will find, for example, every mention of their ancestor in the *Plymouth Colony Records*, vital records, church records, town records and other colony records.

Early accounts will be found by contemporaries such as Altham, Aspinwall, Bradford, de Rasieres, Hubbard, Lechford, Mather, Morton, Mourt, Pory, Prince, Purchas, Sewall, Smith, Winslow and Winthrop. Have you ever wondered where a particular fact originated? If you don't find it here, then it may not be a "fact" after all.

Scholarly journals such as *The Mayflower Quarterly*, *The Mayflower Descendant*, *New England Historical & Genealogical Register*, *The American Genealogist* and *The Genealogist* were searched to let the family researcher know what information has been disproved and what new discoveries or suggestions have been made.

And for those who cannot visit the homes of their *Mayflower* ancestors, over 90 pictures of plaques and memorials have been included.

*****AVAILABLE IN MAY 2011*****

A full bibliography and index complete the book; hardcover, xviii, + 525 pp.; \$50 plus \$15 shipping and handling; PAYPAL, check or money order payable to the author. Please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery.

Available from Susan E. Roser, 4137 Tremaine Rd., Milton, ON Canada L9T 2Y1

rosers@sympatico.ca

www.mayflower-passengers.com

FACEBOOK PAGE FOR JUNIORS

The National Society Junior Chairman has created a Facebook page for all Junior Members. The name of the group is Mayflower Jr Members (2009). The Society encourages all junior members to participate in the discussion group and to hear from other junior members. We invite Junior members to attend state and colony meetings with their sponsors to spark interest and participation.

AN ERA, AND A PILGRIMAGE, COME TO AN END

Frank Woodruff Buckles was the last surviving American veteran of World War I. He passed away February 27, less than a month after his 110th birthday. He was a 63-year member of the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants, having been accepted into the Society on 24 February 1948.



ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATIONS

I will attend the Annual Meeting and Buffet Lunch.

April 30, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.

Wynlakes Golf and Country Club
7900 Wynlakes Boulevard, Montgomery, Alabama 36117

Cost - \$25.00 per person _____ **Yes, I plan to attend**

_____ **# Guests I am bringing (Please include their names)**

_____, _____, _____, _____

_____ **Check enclosed**

Return to be received by April 25, 2011 to:

**Rich Hobson
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Montgomery, AL 36117
Email: hobsonschoice@knology.net**

Phone: 334-272-0051

Alabama Society of Mayflower Descendants
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