

# ALABAMA PILGRIM

A Newsletter for the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama  
April, 2012

## ANNUAL MEETING

May 5 - 11:00 a.m.

Board of Assistants Meeting – 9:30

Huntsville Country Club

*Guest Speaker – Shirley Mohler*

*“Signers of the Declaration of Independence”*

*Shirley Mohler is a student of history. Her interest in history was awakened when she became a part of the EarlyWorks Museum family in Huntsville, Alabama, which consists of the Alabama Constitution Village, EarlyWorks Children’s History Museum and the Huntsville Depot & Museum. During her work at all three museums, Shirley became interested in the stories of the people who developed our great nation. One of Shirley’s greatest pleasures is to “dress up and play like” she is a woman of the past. Shirley is active in her church and in several patriotic organizations. She is the wife of a retired military man, the mother of three sons, and the grandmother of a dozen or more children. Shirley is still trying to decide what she wants to be when she grows up!*

*Shirley will speak on interesting facts regarding the signers of the Declaration of Independence.*

*For more information on the EarlyWorks Museums, please visit their website at:  
<http://earlyworks.com/>*



Photo caption: Shirley Mohler and Tom Sawyer with friend at Huckleberry Finn Day at the Burritt Museum on Monte Sano Mountain in Huntsville.

*.....as one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shown unto many; yea, in some sort to our whole nation.*

William Bradford, Governor of Plymouth Colony, 1630

## MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

As I write this, my last, newsletter as your Governor; the post Easter Day weather is absolutely beautiful. The flowers have been really gorgeous this spring. Ken and I have enjoyed 2 ski trips this winter and just returned from Tallahassee where we spent Easter weekend with our daughter, son-in-law and 2 grandsons. The beautiful weather is pulling me outside where my gardens are beckoning me. But, alas, the annual tax marathon and this newsletter keep me inside where duty calls. The plants must wait.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the privilege of serving as your Governor. It has been such an honor and I thank you for trusting me with the responsibility of leading this terrific organization.

Your other officers have exceeded expectations. They have been so faithful in performing the duties of their respective offices. To mention a few - Secretary Alan Davis and Treasurer Ellie Lienau have worked really hard to keep our rolls reconciled to GSMD's records. It is an involved task coordinating with the national office. They are also good stewards of the records and funds. Charlotte Hobson has been a trooper with all the paperwork and research required during the application process which is so important to the growth of any organization. We have had excellent representation at the Triennial Congress and the annual Board of Assistants meetings.

Our nominating committee, Ann Ferguson, Deen Rice and Kathryn Porter, has compiled an excellent slate for the next three years. I hope that you will be as helpful and supportive of the new officers as you have for me. Rich Hobson will be an energetic and enthusiastic leader. Two of our relatively new members have agreed to be on the slate of election. Come join us. It will be through the participation of the whole membership that we can fulfill our important objectives of keeping our Pilgrim heritage alive and vibrant.

We are having this annual meeting in Huntsville hosted by the Tennessee Valley Colony to continue our new tradition of enjoying all of beautiful Alabama. I hope that you will come and see how beautiful the northern part of our state is. Plan to make a mini vacation of it by spending some time either before or after the meeting.

See you on May 5<sup>th</sup> in Huntsville.  
Mary Helen Mahan, Governor

## **RESERVATION FORMS ON LAST PAGE**

## 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.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Alabama was Ann Ferguson, Deen Rice and Kathryn Porter. We appreciate the work that they did to arrive at an excellent slate to lead us during the period from 2012 – 2015. Election and installation will be at the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. They present the following slate:

Governor	Rich Hobson	Elder	Ruby Hassell
Deputy Governor	Ellie Lienau	Captain	Anne Kilgrow
Deputy Governor General	Alan Davis	Librarian	Carol Kitchens
Assistant General	Ann Ferguson	Board of Assistants	Deen Rice
Treasurer	Mary Helen Mahan		Ann Ferguson
Secretary	Alan Davis		Monte Horton
Historian	Charlotte Hobson		Pam Pittman

## CURRENT OFFICERS

Governor - Mary Helen Mahan, [mhm.smdal@charter.net](mailto:mhm.smdal@charter.net), 334.395.8474  
Deputy Gov. General - Alan Davis, 334.270.8657  
Assistant General – Ann Ferguson, 256.234.4460  
Deputy Governor - Rich Hobson, 334.272.0051  
Secretary - Alan Davis, 334.270.8657  
Elder – Alethea Cole-Tyson, 205.599.1028  
Captain – Chris Gender, 256.883.1091  
Historian - Charlotte Hobson, 334.897.3510  
Librarian - Whitney Hobson, 334.272.0051  
Assistants – Ann Ferguson, 256.234.4460  
Monte Horton, 205.798.9987  
Jerri Kight, 334.285.3573  
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 3 new members. They are **Joseph Michel Marcoux, Elizabeth Douglass Corey, Sallie Coleen Lewis Krantz and Patricia Hall.**

We extend a warm welcome to each of you and hope to see you on May 5th.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS - STATE MEETINGS - SAVE THE DATES

<b>Oct. 20, 2012</b>	<b>Compact Day</b>	<b>Place to be announced</b>
<b>May ?, 2012</b>	<b>Annual Meeting</b>	<b>Place to be announced</b>

We are publishing these unapproved minutes of the Annual Meeting for 2 reasons. The most important is so that those who are unable to attend will learn of the activities of our Society at our meetings. Hopefully you will find something of interest and will decide to make the effort to attend. The other reason is so that those who attended might be better prepared to approve the minutes without having them read at the meetings. This will save time at the meetings.

**SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS**  
**IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA**  
STATE SOCIETY COMPACT DAY MEETING  
November 12, 2011  
UNAPPROVED MINUTES

The *Society of Mayflower Descendants of the State of Alabama* met on Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in The Club in Birmingham, Alabama.

The following Officers were present:

**Governor** – Mary Helen Mahan  
**Deputy Governor** – Rich Hobson  
**Secretary** – Alan M. Davis  
**Treasurer** – Ellie Lienau  
**Historian** – Charlotte Hobson  
**Elder**- Alethea Cole-Tyson  
**Captain**- Chris Gender  
**Librarian**- Not Present

**Board of Assistant 1**-Ann Ferguson  
**Board of Assistant 2**-Monte Horton  
**Board of Assistant 3**-Deen Rice  
**Board of Assistant 4**- Not present  
**Deputy Governor General.** – Alan M. Davis  
**Assistant General** –Ann Ferguson  
**Lt. Gov. Gulf Coast Col**- Not present  
**Lt. Gov. Cap Col**- Alan m. Davis  
**Lt. Gov. TN. Val. Col** -Marie Karlson

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**Governor** Mary Helen Mahan called the meeting to order at 11:12 o'clock a.m.

The **Elder** Alethea Cole-Tyson read the *Elder's Prayer*, *The Mayflower Compact*, and the *Objects of the Society* and led the meeting in reciting of *The Pledge of Allegiance* to the United States Flag.

Roll call was held and the members who were present introduced themselves, their guest and listed their ancestor(s).

The Minutes of the April 30, 2011 meeting were read corrected and approved.

Governor Mahan handed out copies of her report and announced that Kathryn Porter, Ann Ferguson and Deen Rice will serve on the Nominating Committee. She had written the Newsletter and E-mailed 83 and mailed out 165 to our membership and prospective members. She also reported that she had attended the General Congress in September. She also reported that she is continuing to keep the mailing list up to date.

Deputy Governor, Rich Hobson, announced that we will have about thirty coming today and that the Annual Meeting in May will be in Huntsville on May 5<sup>th</sup> 2012. The meeting location will be at the Huntsville Country Club. This is an attempt to rotate our State Meetings between the Colonies every other year.

Deputy Governor General, Alan M. Davis reported that he had attended the General Congress as well and discussions were held on the General Officers and conduct of the election. Also that the reorganized General Constitution was approved and that there were thirty-two additional amendments to vote on and that only fourteen were voted on and the rest were tabled. The Congress was adjourned minutes before members were to suppose to board the busses to go to the Banquet.

Assistant General, Ann Ferguson, showed the new medal for the D.G.G and A.G., (who are General Officers), and discussed the picture from the General Congress Banquet that was in the Newsletter. Further discussions were held on the By-Laws.

The Secretary, Alan Davis, reported that he is working on updating our membership list with Ellie, Mary Helen and Bonnie Conant of the General Historian's office in Plymouth to have the year-end report coincide with their list in Plymouth. He also reminded everyone to please sign the Attendance book if they haven't.

The Treasurer, Ellie Lienau, gave her report. She reported that since interest rates are very low and upon her recommendation, the Board of Assistants approved that she liquidate the money market account at Regions Bank and put it into the checking account. She reported that we have fifty-six (56) Life Members, one hundred eight-teen (118) regular Members and that one hundred twelve (112) regular members had paid their dues to date. Six (6) letters were sent by certified mail. She is now accepting dues for 2012. She said that she has made no progress with the IRS on the non-profit status and that we need a lawyer to help on this matter. She said that we may have umbrella status with the general Society. She also stated that we need to have a review of the account books at year-end. (A detailed copy of the report is attached).

The Historian, Charlotte Hobson, reported that there are thirteen (13) sets of working papers, one (1) new member - Ann Kilgrow's sister, Adelaide Miller Kilgrow and one (1) new supplemental ancestor.

The Elder, Alethea Cole-Tyson, had no report.

The Captain Chris Gender, (Not present), but it was noted by Mary Helen that there is a new Manual for the State Society Captains.

The Librarian, Whitney Hobson Craig (Not present), but it was reported that she is working on the year books.

The Lt. Governor Capital Colony, Alan M. Davis, reported that they will try to meet in February and that Past Governor Sid Leak spoke on Confederate General Richard Taylor, son of President Zackary Taylor, for them at their meeting in August.

The Lt. Governor of the Tennessee Valley Colony, Mrs. Marie Karlson, reported that they will meet at the new Huntsville Veteran's Memorial.

The Lt. Governor Gulf Coast Colony, Mr. Robert Howell (not present), but it was reported that they are meeting today and their speaker is Mrs. Elizabeth Wells, Archivist for the University of Samford. Past Governor Sid Leak spoke for them at their last meeting on Confederate General Richard Taylor, son of President Zackary Taylor.

Mary Helen asked that if anyone has any interesting stories about their ancestors please write a summary of it and submit it to be put in the Newsletter. Charlotte discussed a story she remembered concerning donkeys holding each other tail walking in a line.

#### **Under Old Business:**

Discussions were held on the Web Site subscription to be renewed and that we are paid up till 2014. It was reported by Pam Pittman that we have had 622 hits on our site and that many questions were concerning scholarships.

Ann Kilgrow reported on her attendance of the Congress and that she had to leave early due to a family emergency.

#### **UNDER NEW BUSINESS:**

It was discussed by Ann Ferguson and the Board decided that she be a committee of one to have the information corrected on the brick purchased by our Society, which was placed in the garden of the Mayflower House.

Mary Helen announced again that Ann Ferguson, Kathryn Porter and Deen Rice will serve on the Nominating Committee.

There being no further business before the Compact Day meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:58 o'clock a.m. by Governor Mary Helen Mahan.

After the meeting a delicious meal was served and after our meal our speaker was Mrs. Sharon Tucker, Archivist for the Alabama West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church and Special Collections at Huntingdon College in Montgomery. She gave an informative history of Huntingdon College. She had brought some artifacts from the college and talked about some of their famous Alumni.

*Alan M. Davis,*

Secretary

**ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATIONS**

**I will attend the Annual Meeting and Luncheon May 5 at 11:00 am.**

Huntsville Country Club.  
2601 Oakwood Ave. NW  
Huntsville, AL 35816

**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 May 1, 2012 to:**

**Rich Hobson  
7436 Old Barn Road  
Montgomery, AL 36117  
Email: hobsonschoice@knology.net**

**Phone: 334-272-0051**

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**Mary Helen Mahan, Governor  
P.O. Box 230893  
Montgomery, AL 36123**