

Why Join The Mayflower Society?

Most of us have relatives and acquaintances who are Mayflower descendants, but have not yet chosen to join the Mayflower Society. Here are some thoughts about why they should join.

Perhaps it starts with "because I can". A lot of us are amazed to find that we are Mayflower descendants. Having the General Society certify our lineage gives us a lot of pride in our ancestry. There is a great deal of personal satisfaction in knowing that we are direct descendants of those who were among the earliest settlers of our country. Those settlers who gave rise to so much of our treasured American traditions. The Mayflower Society is one of the three largest, most respected and prestigious hereditary organizations in America.

There is also the familial satisfaction in finding new relatives, both current and past. Each of us is part of an extended family when we stand with the other descendants of our Mayflower Ancestor at our Compact Day celebrations. Joining the Mayflower Society is our way of connecting with our 'cousins' in that extended family.

As we learn more about the way our ancestors lived and the things they did, we develop a deeper appreciation of our American heritage and the values which our ancestors strove to establish and preserve. Preserving that heritage has become increasingly difficult as our national culture has changed. To quote President Ronald Reagan,.. "Those of us who are over 35 or so years of age grew up in a different America. We were taught, very directly, what it means to be an American. And we absorbed, almost in the air, a love of country and an appreciation of it's institutions.....But now things have changed."

The Mayflower Society is committed to preserving that heritage. Belonging to the Society is one of the best ways one can start participating in that goal. If we do not take active steps to preserve our heritage, future generations may never know what it means to be an American.