

The Texas Mayflower News

Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants



Governors Message

Hello All

I truly hope that everyone is enjoying this beautiful weather. Central Texas is seeing temperatures in the mid 80s. Maybe we will not have such a blistering hot summer. We are trying to clean out the storage buildings and still unpacking totes. I dream about totes. I will be glad when we can mark done to this project.

Thanks to the DFW Colony for a very fine State Meeting. I believe we had a good time and made needed adjustments to our operating documents and committees..

The Audit Committee made a number of recommendations striving for the highest level of transparency and benefit to the Society.

The Scholarship Committee is hard at work at making the changes that were recommended at the Annual Meeting. The Motions, voting results and recommendations will be in this Newsletter. Chairman Mary Eck pointed out the need for full participation by all our chapters to encourage young members of the Mayflower family to hear about and participate. We really accomplished a lot at the 2014 State Meeting and had a wonderful time.

*Carol Scarborough,
State Governor,*



Kayla Bush,

Mayflower Scholarship Winner

Kayla Bush, daughter of Kary and Tammy Bush of Riesel, Texas was recipient of the first State Scholarship awarded by the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants. **Kayla's ancestor was Edward Doty, a boy about her age when he sailed to America as an indentured servant in 1620.** Throughout her high school career, Kayla was active in Cross Country, Track, Basketball, Softball, Band and Cheerleading and FFA. She was Vice President of the National Honor Society, was Vice President of her class and received Outstanding Honors Awards in English, Physics and Dual Credit English along with working as a Teacher Assistant at Foster Elem. She is devoted to her Fellowship of Christian Athletes serving as a huddle leader 4 yrs., teaches a Sunday School class at First Baptist Church, Riesel, and selected to cheer at the FCA Victory Bowl. With her outreaching spirit this active young lady was **voted "Most Likely to Succeed"** by her classmates of 2014. Kayla graduated 2nd in her class and was accepted into Texas A&M where she will major in Education.



ByLaws Committee

There are several proposed changes to the GSMD Bylaws/Constitution which will be considered at the upcoming GSMD Congress in Plymouth, including increases to the fee we pay to the GSMD each year for every active member. If any are approved, which is very likely, our Bylaws will need to be changed **in order to remain in compliance and to implement them. That is the long way of saying 'there will likely be changes proposed to our TXSOMD Bylaws at our 2015 Annual Meeting in Houston'.**

If there are any changes which you feel need to be made to our Bylaws, please send them to me so the Bylaws Committee can process them.

You can email me at nichols.ms@gmail.com with any questions.

In Memoriam

We were notified of the passing of the following members since our last newsletter.

GS83013, TX2829, Lucille Anne Rostron Combs, on October 17, 2013
GS33223, TX1366, Marcia Hathaway Henderson, on July 5, 2013,
GS71220, TX2204, Janice Louise Walker, on August 17, 2013,
GS80154, TX2663, Dolores Marie Hamrah Williams, on May 11, 2013,
GS34173, TX756, Mary Sue Ogg Wisdom, on January 31, 2014,
GS86431, TX3055, Mildred Virginia Porter Hankemeyer, on Feb 16, 2014.
GS57296, TX1574, Dr. George Brandau, on April 2, 2014

Note: Deaths of previous members furnished by Peggy Durack

GS41734, TX1079, Carolyn Elizabeth Duderstadt Mitchell on 01-31-2013
GS73914, TX2420, Dian Danner on 11-02-2010
GS73126, TX2554, Laurel Kinman on 12-03-2012
GS35540, TX1454, Margaret Dion Kurth on 08-24-2010
GS41301, TX1059, Robert Allen Ridgeway, Jr. on 11-05-2008
GS79578, TX2635, Vesta Callahan Johnson LeMay on 01-26-2012
GS73967, TX2363, Jeraldene "Jerry" Walser Chandler on 02-25-2013
GS77096, TX2513, John Dickson House on 03-16-2013
GS57763, TX1608, Marion Wright Gough on 09-21-2007
GS64452, TX1969, Bobbie Ross on 10-12-2007
GS70055, TX2174, George Edward Burlage on 11-30-2008

Call for Nominations

The Texas Society Nominating Committee is seeking nominees for the following state offices: Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, two or more Co-Historians, Assistant Historians, Elder, Captain, Surgeon, and a Counsellor. The nominees for Governor and Deputy Governor will come from the West Texas Colony for the next biennium. Duties of these officers and qualifications can be found in the bylaws. A copy of our bylaws is in your Yearbook and can also be found on our website

www.Texasmayflower.com. Nominees can be submitted to any member of the Nominating Committee. Members are Pat Nichols, Chairman; Dwight Benson, Central Texas; Nancy Parker, Corpus-Christi; Linda Hill, Dallas-Fort Worth; Charles Prince, Houston; Deborah Werner, San Antonio; Carolyn McCall, Tyler; Ann Harder, Waco Colony, and Lorie Rubenser, West Texas. You may contact the chairman directly at patricia.a.nichols@gmail.com.

Notes from the Vault

We gratefully thank Jean de Schweinitz for her generous contribution in honor of her mother.

The Texas Mayflower Society and the IRS

You may be interested to learn that our Texas Mayflower Society has again been determined a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt organization by the IRS AND, for the first time, all of our Colonies are now included. This means that donations to our Colonies now officially qualify as federal tax exempt donations. It also means that we can file a single IRS Tax Return for the Texas Society AND all of our Colonies. It took over one and a half years to finally get this determination from the IRS.

Texas Sales Tax Exemption for office supplies

We also now have been registered as exempt from Texas Sales Tax by Office Depot, Office Max and Staples when purchasing goods at these establishments for Mayflower Society use. The account numbers to use have been sent to all of the colony Governors and BoA representatives.

2015 Annual Dues

Thank you for continuing your membership in the Texas Mayflower Society. The 2015 Annual Dues campaign will be starting in September. However, you can 'shop now and avoid the rush'. I will gratefully receive and process your dues payments anytime.

Life Memberships

Tired of having old money-bags hassling you for your annual dues each fall? Consider becoming a Texas Society Life member. The cost is \$625. For more information please contact either Prarie Counce, our Corresponding Secretary, or Mike Nichols, our Treasurer. The Life Member fee is likely to be increased at our 2015 Annual Meeting.

Please make your check payable to **SOMD State of TX** and mail it to: my address below.

The Texas Mayflower Fund

Several years ago The Texas Mayflower Society Gifting Program was established to allow members to leave a lasting gift to the Texas Society. The Texas Mayflower Fund was created, other funds were consolidated into it, and the Endowment Committee was established to oversee the investment of the fund assets.

Our Scholarship, Education, and Library programs are all funded from The Texas Mayflower Fund. Several members choose to make a donation to this fund at the time they pay their annual dues. Any donations received, unless otherwise specified, are added to the Texas Mayflower Fund. Memorials and other gifts to the Texas Mayflower Fund are gratefully appreciated and are Tax Deductible.

You can email me at nichols.ms@gmail.com with any questions.

Mike Nichols
Treasurer, TXSOMD
310 Clovis Drive.
Georgetown, TX 78628



Recording Secretary's Report

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS,

MARCH 29, 2014

Motions and Their Resolution

Bylaws Committee Chairman Mike Nichols read the following proposed By-Laws Change and moved its adoption. **Motion carried to amend as follows:**

Article III: Membership, Section 2. Classifications

A. Regular membership

1. A Preliminary Application acquired from the Co-Historian and signed by the applicant shall be returned to the Co-Historian with the sum of One Hundred Forty-five dollars (\$145.00).

Audit Committee member Dwight Benson read the following proposed recommendations and moved that they be approved. Motion carried. **All recommendations were approved as read.**

In keeping with a commitment to the highest level of security and safety, the Committee has recommended password changes be made in a timely manner, and to coincide with the change of the Committee, which will then occur every two years.

As we continue to strive for the highest level of transparency, the Committee recommends a simple one Form be developed, providing a report for the hosting Colony of the State Meeting to file, documenting expenses incurred. The backup receipts would continue to be maintained by the hosting Colony. This form/report will then be filed within 90 days from the close of the meeting. This should protect the state from any unwarranted scrutiny resulting in the use of funds.

To keep our expenses in line, it is recommended that every other year, competitive bids be sought for the expense of producing the Year Book, and the Newsletter. Realizing that cost is not always the final consideration for selecting our best Vendors, it is still in our interest to keep this as an open process.

The Committee is in agreement that reasonable expense be considered for the preparation of the annual 990's for the IRS, especially now that there are also eight Colony filings that are being handled by the State, as well as the actual filing for the State. While the filing has been handled for a number of years by the Treasurer, it is reasonable to determine, and include a reasonable fee in the budget based on what we could anticipate a CPA might charge. This would also protect any future Treasurer candidate who might be willing to perform regular duties of the Treasurer position, but not be comfortable with filing tax documents for the IRS.

Scholarship Committee Recommendations: Each recommendation was voted on individually. All recommendations were read and their approval moved by Chairman Mary Eck.

1. The number of applicants implies that a stronger participation is needed from the Texas Colonies in order to advertise the scholarship. Announcements are printed in the Newsletter but there is a need for each colony to publicize the scholarship in their area more vigorously. **Recommendation approved as read.**

2. We recommend a change in the timeline outlined in the current plan. Information was distributed to each colony governor but we have no way of knowing what the colonies did with the information. One specific change that is needed is the due date for the application to be in the hands of the scholarship chairman. We recommend the date for submission to be March 1st rather than December 31st. Motion by Lisa Pennington to amend was seconded and approved. **Recommendation, as amended, passed and reads as stated.**

3. We recommend a change in the topics for the essays. Three of the four topics relate to the writer's feelings. We discovered a great difference in the essay about "What Does My Mayflower Ancestry Mean to Me" which discussed which prominent person had Mayflower ancestry and the topic, "How Did the Role of Religion Work for the Mayflower Colony?" The committee wishes to create new topics for 2015. **Recommendation passed as read.**

Recording Secretary's Report Continued

Scholarship Committee Recommendations continued

5. Motion by Mike Nichols to split the original recommendation #5 into two separate parts: one part dealing with the amount of the scholarship, which would be voted on by the BOA, the other part, dealing with distribution only. **Motion to split was seconded and approved.**

Part A: We recommend that the scholarship be paid in two payments, with the recipient acknowledging they are enrolled in the second semester. **Recommendation failed.**

Part B: Voted on at the BOA. We recommend that the amount of the Annual Scholarship be raised from \$2,500 to \$3,000. **Recommendation passed**

6. The scholarship chairman will be responsible for the contacts with the recipient and for notifying the treasurer to send the money to the finance office of the college or university when all requirements are met. **Amended to comply with recommendation #5, this recommendation passed and reads as stated.**

7. We recommend that the recipient and parents be invited as guests to attend the Annual Meeting banquet. **Recommendation passed as read.**

8. We recommend that all Colony Scholarship recipients be encouraged to apply for the State scholarship. Motion to amend by Tom Denny was seconded and approved. **The recommendation, as amended, was passed and reads as stated.**

9. We, the Scholarship Committee, recommend that this committee function as other committees as to non material administrative duties as needed. Following discussion, a motion to amend by Lisa Pennington was seconded and approved. **The recommendation, as amended, passed and reads as stated.**

Motions from the floor regarding the Library Committee

1. Carolyn McCall moved to drop the Longview Library from the list of designated Libraries. Rational is that the Longview Colony disbanded several years ago. **Motion seconded and approved**

Other Business and Actions

Nomination of DGG and AG: These General Society Officers are nominated by the state society and elected by the General Society. Judie Allen nominated **Mike Nichols** for Deputy Governor General. Mike Byrne nominated **Rick Denham** for Assistant General. **Both nominees were approved.**

2020 Committee: The General Society has requested that all the State Societies have a 2020 Committee. Governor Scarborough asked for volunteers. **The following volunteers were appointed to the committee:** Dwight Benson, Lisa Pennington, Rick Denham, Leah Davis and Jean deSchweinitz

Election of Delegates: Gov. Scarborough asked for volunteers to be delegates to the General Congress that will be held in Plymouth this coming September. **The following volunteers and were elected as delegates:** Pat Nichols, Carolyn McCall, Lisa Pennington, Bart Henson, Dwight Benson, Laurie Behn, Prarie Counce, Leah Davis, Lawrence Casey, Charles Prince, Peggy Durack, Cheryl Sheldon, Nancy Parker, Mike Nichols, Rick Denham, Judie Allen, and Linda Hill.

Annual Award Presentation: This year the annual award was split between two very deserving candidates. Carol Scarborough introduced **award winner Betty Corcoran**. Bart Henson introduced **award winner Mike Nichols**. The annual donation that is made each year to the General Society will be made in both of their names.

Co-Historian's Report

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome these new members who have been approved since publication of our last newsletter and those who have transferred from other state societies, which are noted by an asterisk following their state number.

TX#	GS#	Name	City	Ancestor
3055	86431	Mildred Virginia Porter Hankemeyer	San Antonio	Edward Fuller
3056	86432	Linda Joyce Nebout Meenen	Texas City	John Howland
3057	86482	Howard Chalmer Dailey III	El Paso	Richard Warren
3058	86515	Jacquelyn Stallings Perabo	Corpus Christi	Myles Standish
3059	86516	Edith Claire MacAllister Sauter	New Braunfels	Myles Standish
3060	86552	Glen Forrest Alden	Tyler	John Alden
3061	86553	Mitchel James Newberry	San Antonio	William Bradford
3062	86562	Dena Joette Duty Schoolcraft	San Antonio	Myles Standish
3063	86563	Nancy Lou Snell Orynich	Boca Raton, FL	William Brewster
3064	86599	Frederick Fairbrother Martin	Sargentville, ME	William Brewster
3065	86624	Mary Ellen Hayes Blankenship	Plano	John Alden
3066	86637	Kenneth Robert Bassett	Reno, NV	John Alden
3067	86638	Margaret Bryant Karsner Ivancevich	Spring	Isaac Allerton
3068	86639	Courtney Lynn Wheeler Sobocinski	Austin	Thomas Rogers
3069	86651	Susan Carroll Greene Tillman	Houston	William Brewster
3070	86693	Diana Sargent Marston Wood	Pittsburgh, PA	Stephen Hopkins
3071	86787	Melissa Dawn Walcik	Killeen	Richard Warren
3072	86803	Kenneth Edward Moore	Tyler	Stephen Hopkins
3073	86820	Lee Ayers Bennett	Houston	John Alden
3074	86821	Elizabeth Germaine Counce Danford	Heartland	William White
3075*	69929	Sandra Lynn Wasik Liwang	San Antonio	William Brewster
3076	86831	Jeffrey Lynn Hay	Flint	Myles Standish
3077	86832	Sheila Marlene Hopkins Schulte	Cypress	Stephen Hopkins
3078	86833	Jean Kathryn Henry Sterne	Katy	Elizabeth Tilley
3079	86857	Sherwood Pelton McCall III	Houston	John Alden
3080	86875	John Glenn Hunter, Jr.	Conroe	William Bradford
3081	86902	Carrie Lynn Weir	Plano	Stephen Hopkins
3082	86903	James Thaddeus Wetterau	Richardson	William Brewster
3083	86904	Sarah Elizabeth Wetterau	Richardson	William Brewster
3084	86928	Carolyn Joy Reed Clark	New Caney	John Alden
3085	86929	Donna Beth Shaw	Houston	Stephen Hopkins
3086	86943	Bradford Allan Wagoner	Richardson	William Bradford
3087	86962	Hillard Martin Soward Iii	San Antonio	Edward Fuller
3088	86974	Shirley Blake Geissler	San Antonio	Stephen Hopkins
3089	86975	Susan Dianne Earnest Pendleton	Kerrville	John Alden

New Supplementals

TX #2812	Dana Gail Bain	Henry Samson
TX #3029	Sharon Frances Earles Martin	Priscilla Mullins
TX #2819	Velda Jean Wilson Reed	John Cooke
TX #2949	Genevieve Knapp Williams	Priscilla Mullins
TX #2826	Sandra Ruth Kleppin Lewis	Mary Allerton
TX #2959	Kathryn Sue Hastings	Priscilla Mullins
TX #3061	Mitchell James Newberry	John Billington
TX #2909	David Edgar Templeton	Stephen Hopkins

Co-Historian's Report Continued

JUNIORS			
TJ#	Member	Sponsor	Ancestor
1121	Hannah Ruth Wetterau	Mary I. Wetterau	William Brewster
1122	Logan Wayne Stephens	Susan Hutchens Smith	Stephen Hopkins
1123	Nichole Ann Phillips	Sherry Kroboth	Richard Warren
1124	Sarah Ruth Phillips	Sherry Kroboth	Richard Warren

We apologize for an error in our last report – the correct information: **Charlotte Grace Lowe TJ # 1115**

2013-2015 Elected Officers

Governor	Carol Scarborough
Dep. Governor	Ann Harder
Co-Historian	Laurie Behn
Co-Historian	Peggy Durack
Assis Historian	Jennifer Mitten
Assit Historian	Sheryl Schilling
Assis Historian	LaVonne Bradford
Corresp. Sec.	Prarie Counce
Recording Sec.	Linda Hill
Treasurer	Michael Nichols
Captain	Michael Byrne

GSMD Vision Statement

GSMD has demonstrated over a century of dedicated effort to raising public awareness to the ideals and traditions established by the Pilgrims in order to ensure public commitment. As the preeminent authority on the legacy of the Pilgrims, GSMD will continue to play a crucial role as the best source of information and education to raise public awareness and increase the public understanding of the importance of the Pilgrim's lives and legacies. In so doing, GSMD will:

- Preserve, protect, and interpret The Mayflower Society House property, its surrounding gardens and a sizeable collection of decorative arts, antiques and artifacts of historic significance relating to the Pilgrims and their descendants;
- Collect and maintain research materials relating to the history, culture and genealogy of the Pilgrims and their descendants housed in the Mayflower Library facility located on the grounds of The Mayflower Society House property, which is open to genealogists, historians and other researchers;
- Publish historical and genealogical research by professional genealogists and historians to establish authoritative biographical, genealogical and historical information relating to the Pilgrims and their descendants;
- Actively participate throughout the world in local community planning and coordination with other nonprofit organizations which have similar missions and goals;
- Provide active participation with state society membership organizations, established in accordance with GSMD standards, and with the approval of GSMD. Each chapter shares the mission and vision of GSMD and membership is limited to individuals who can establish direct lineal descent from a *Mayflower* passenger in accordance with standards and procedures established and administered by GSMD;
- Solicit financial support of donors;
- Enhance public awareness and support through educational publications, programs, historic tours, logo sales, scholarships, and initiatives to encourage GSMD chapters in similar efforts;
- Maintain financial and organizational independence;
- Administer revenue producing programs, such as tours of The Mayflower Society House, the retail sale of publications and other program-related merchandise and membership dues paid by each constituent organization.

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Save the Date

Annual Meeting of Texas Society Of
Mayflower Descendants

March 27-28, 2015

Houston, Texas