

Minutes of the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants Board of Assistants/Directors Meeting

The meeting was held on Friday, March 27, 2015, at the Hilton Houston Westchase, Houston, Texas.

With a quorum present, Linda Hill, Recording Secretary, called the meeting to order at 4:03 P.M. Linda explained to members that both Governor Carol Scarborough and Deputy Governor Ann Harder were unable to attend the meeting; and that she (Linda Hill) would chair the meeting as Governor pro tem and Corresponding Secretary Prarie Counce, would be Recording Secretary pro tem as per Robert's Rules of Order and the wish of Governor Scarborough. Members approved.

Minutes of the 2014 meeting had previously been read and approved by a group of three members. Governor pro tem Hill appointed Pat Nichols, Charles Prince, and Judie Allen to read and approve the 2015 minutes. Members approved.

The timekeeper appointed by Governor pro tem Hill was Sheryl Schilling. Members approved.

Tellers appointed by Governor pro tem Hill were Nancy Keith, Lea Filson, and Dwight Benson. Members approved.

Items of business that were conducted by an e-mail vote needed approval. The following items were moved and approved:

1. Approve the appointment of Mike Nichols to serve as Acting Assistant General for the 2014 GSMD Triennial Meeting.
2. Approve an expenditure of funds (est. \$4,500) for equipment (scanners, printers, software, etc.) for Historians that was not provided for in the adopted budget.
3. Approve the appointment by Governor Scarborough of Judie Allen to serve as acting Assistant General until her election by GSMD.

Treasurer Mike Nichols presented financial information that included the following recommendations that were moved and approved:

1. The Governor create a Policy Committee, and that committee prepare a Whistleblower Policy and a Conflict of Interest Policy for approval by the Board of Assistants.
2. The Duties of the Officers in the Bylaws be changed to ensure compliance with the approved policies of the TXSOMD.
3. The approved Policies of the TXSOMD be added to the Yearbooks.
4. The Nominating Committee canvas the Colonies and identify a candidate for Treasurer so that individual can be added to the Finance Committee.

Finance Committee Chairperson Mike Nichols presented the financial report that included the following recommendations that were moved and approved:

1. Any surplus at the end of the 2015-2016 fiscal year be transferred to the Life Membership Fund.
2. A mid-year meeting of the Texas Society officers and the Colony Governors be held. \$800 has been budgeted to defray the expenses of this meeting.
3. A second scholarship be added, in the amount of \$1,000. This amount is included in the budget.
4. The Nominating Committee canvas the Colonies and identify a candidate for Treasurer so that individual can be added to the Finance Committee.

Endowment Committee Chairperson Bart Henson presented the report that contained the following recommendations that were moved and approved:

1. Move the 2014 operating surplus of \$7,094 to the REIT index fund in the Life member fund to further shore up the Life Member Fund.
2. Sell \$6,056 of the Prime Money Market Fund in the Life Member fund and reinvest that in the REIT index fund in the Life Member Fund to increase earnings in the fund.
3. The addition into the Life Member fund shown above, combined with continued healthy growth in new Life Members, 3% earnings and 4% value growth per year should allow the Life Member fund to grow even with the continued use of 25 times the annual dues as the cost of a Life Membership. Therefore we should stick with the use of the Multiple of 25 times dues to avoid over pricing our Life Memberships.
4. Sell all the TISI holdings in the General Fund (about \$7,589) and move this to the Short Term Bond Fund still in the General Fund (1-3 year maturities).
5. Sell \$50,000 of the TSMI in the Mayflower Fund and invest this in the REIT index fund in the Mayflower Fund to reduce equity exposure at high market valuation.
6. Sell the Long Term Bond Index Fund (about \$46,461) and invest the proceeds in the Short Term Bond Index fund (both within the Mayflower Fund) to minimize the impact of rising interest rates.

Audit Committee Chairperson Charles Prince presented a report that contained the following recommendations that were moved and approved:

1. With the move to streamline the process for Historians/Historians Assistants to purchase supplies, it is recommended that a new institution be investigated to provide the use of Credit Cards, including possibly through our current Vanguard Investments.
2. Request will be extended to the Education Committee to provide a resource list for the use of Education Funds, as some Colonies are not making full use of these funds.
3. Recommendation is made that funds not used by December 31st will be forfeited, and available for use by other Colonies.
4. Recommendation that competitive shop on pricing be approved based on Approved Vendor List.
5. The Committee agrees that Historian Expenses paid with a Texas Society debit card, be submitted quarterly to the treasurer. These receipts are to be scanned (using the provided scanner for each Historian), and only the scanned version is emailed quarterly to the Treasurer.

Officer reports that were submitted are on file.

Bylaws Committee Chairperson Mike Nichols presented and explained the following proposed bylaws changes that will be presented to the membership for approval at the annual meeting on tomorrow (March 28, 2015).

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~~ Fifty dollars (\$~~145.00~~ 150.00). This sum includes a non-refundable application fee and the annual dues for the calendar year in which the application is approved. Upon receipt of the Preliminary Application and a check for One Hundred ~~Forty-five~~ Fifty dollars (\$~~145.00~~ 150.00) made out to TX SOMD, the appropriate Co-Historian shall send a worksheet, with instructions, to the applicant.
4. The Preliminary Application form is to read as follows: Application Fee, One Hundred Twenty dollars (\$ 120.00); Annual Dues, ~~Twenty-five~~ Thirty dollars (\$~~25.00~~ \$30.00).

B. Junior membership.

3. Junior Members under age 18 may become Life Members upon payment of the Life Membership Fee of ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, and after complying with all procedures for Regular membership as set forth in Article III, Section 2A. A Junior member of the Texas Society shall become a Life member upon payment of the Life Membership Fee of ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, after the approval of lineage papers by the state Co-Historian and the Historian General and after Texas and General Society numbers have been assigned. The Preliminary Application for the Junior member moving to become a Life member shall read: Application Fee, One Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$120.00), Life Membership Fee, ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, Total, ~~Seven Hundred Forty-five Dollars (\$745.00)~~ Eight Hundred Seventy dollars (\$870.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line.

C. Life membership. A Regular Member in good standing shall become a Texas Life Member upon payment of the Life Membership Fee of ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line. This fee may accompany the annual dues or be made at any time after the current dues have been paid. Life members shall thereafter be exempt from paying annual state dues. A new member may become a Life member upon payment of an additional ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, after being informed of acceptance into the Society. The Life Membership Fee is calculated at the rate of twenty-five times the annual state dues), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line.

ARTICLE IX: DUES AND FINANCE

SECTION 1. ANNUAL DUES.

A. Annual dues shall be ~~twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)~~ thirty dollars (\$30.00), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, payable to the Society Treasurer by January 1 of the year for which they apply.

SECTION 6. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

E. The Treasurer Shall:

~~11.~~ ~~9.~~ Deposit funds with the General Society in December and June to cover the payment of the application fees for applications submitted by the Co-Historians to the Historian General for approval.

F. The Co-Historians Shall:

~~20.~~ Send a monthly report to the Treasurer of all applications submitted to the Historian General for approval.

SECTION 4. TRANSFERS, DUAL MEMBERSHIPS, TRANSFER FEES.

B. Transfer Fee. A member in good standing who requests a transfer from the Texas Society shall notify the Corresponding Secretary ~~and send a transfer fee of Ten dollars (\$10.00).~~

SECTION 5. RESIGNATION, REINSTATEMENT, & FORFEITURE.

C. Forfeitures. A former member who forfeited membership for nonpayment of dues and desires to be reinstated shall make application in writing to the Corresponding Secretary. The former member will resume membership upon payment of the current year's dues plus ~~the dues for the year in which the membership was forfeited~~ a reinstatement fee equal to dues for the current year.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 1. OFFICERS

E. The Treasurer Shall:

~~5.~~ ~~Maintain a complete and current list of members, including Life Members, and provide the Corresponding Secretary with monthly updated lists and, as needed, mailing labels.~~

~~8.~~ ~~7.~~ Notify the Corresponding Secretary ~~and Newsletter Editor~~ of members who have forfeited membership for non-payment of dues.

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

SECTION 3. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

E. The Newsletter/Publications Committee. ... The Newsletter/ Publications chairman shall use a current and complete list of members ~~identical to that of~~ supplied by the Corresponding Secretary.

ARTICLE VII: BOARD OF ASSISTANTS/DIRECTORS

SECTION 2. DUTIES.

A. The Board of Assistants/Directors shall:

2. Approve the appointments of the Governor/President, including the chairmen of Standing and Special Committees, the Parliamentarian, ~~the Digital Records Archivist~~, and the Trustees of the Endowment Fund.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 6. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

A. The Governor/President Shall:

14. Appoint a Digital Records Archivist.

M. The Digital Records Archivist Shall:

1. Attend all meetings of the Texas Society.

2. Maintain and update the digital records of the Society and distribute them to officers as necessary.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 1. OFFICERS

A. Elected Officers. The elected officers of the Society shall be a Governor/President, a Deputy Governor, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, two or more Co-Historians, Assistant Historians as necessary, an Elder, a Captain, ~~a Surgeon~~, and a Counselor.

SECTION 6. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

J. The Surgeon Shall:

- ~~1. Have been admitted to the practice of medicine in the State of Texas.~~
- ~~2. Be under the direction of the Governor/President and the Board of Assistants/Directors.~~
- ~~3. Notify the Corresponding Secretary of any known changes in classification, name, address, telephone number, or death of members.~~

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

SECTION 3. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

K. **The Library Committee** shall purchase and distribute Mayflower Five Generation Project Publications, identified in the *Mayflower Quarterly*, to designated libraries ~~within the area of each colony approved by the BOA~~, as necessary, to maintain up-to-date collections at each library.

ARTICLE VII: BOARD OF ASSISTANTS/DIRECTORS

SECTION 2. DUTIES.

A. The Board of Assistants/Directors shall:

2. Approve the appointments of the Governor/President, including the chairmen of Standing and Special Committees, the Parliamentarian, ~~the Digital Records Archivist~~, and the Trustees of the Endowment Fund, ~~at the BoA meeting immediately following the election of new offices.~~

Library Committee Chairperson Judie Allen reported a set of Silver Books had been placed in the Harlingen, TX library.

Nominating Committee Chairperson Pat Nichols presented the proposed slate of officers to be elected at the state annual meeting on March 28, 2015.

Scholarship Committee Chairperson Mary Eck presented recommendations. The following recommendations were moved and approved.

1. Consider rewording the eligibility statement after a discussion by this body to assess what we want for the scholarship.
2. The Scholarship Chairman be removed from the heading of "Other Committees" and be included in the Standing Committees. This recommendation involves a bylaws change and will be referred to the Bylaws Committee.

Liaison Chairperson Mary Eck presented her report that included recommendations. It was moved and approved that guidelines adopted at a previous annual meeting (2012/13) should be printed in the yearbook as guidelines.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 P.M.

Prarie Counce
Recording Secretary pro tem

Minutes of the 2015 Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants State Annual Meeting

The 2015 Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants State Annual Meeting was hosted by the Houston Colony and held on March 28th at the Hilton Houston Westchase, Houston, Texas.

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Linda Hill, Recording Secretary, explained to members that both Governor Carol Scarborough and Deputy Governor Ann Harder were unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Hill said according to Robert's Rules and the wishes of Governor Scarborough, she would chair the meeting as Governor pro tem and Corresponding Secretary Prarie Counce would be Recording Secretary pro tem.

The Governor pro tem Hill called the meeting to order at 9:21 A.M.

Elder Lisa Pennington read the Invocation.

Captain Michael Byrne led the Salute to the Flags.

Governor pro tem Linda Hill welcomed all and asked new members to stand. New members were Betty Gosdin, John Hunter, Jr., Bill Griffith, B.C. "Bud" Hopkins, Jacqie Perabo, Lynne Zalesak and Jonathan Crocker.

Houston Colony Lea Davis welcomed all and recognized General Society of Mayflower Descendants Governor General Lea Filson and other general society officers.

Adoption of the program was moved and approved.

Adoption of the standing rules was moved and approved.

Minutes of the 2014 State Annual Meeting had been read and approved by a committee of three members.

Three members (Pat Nichols, Charles Prince, Judie Allen) were appointed to read and approve the 2015 minutes. Their appointment was moved and approved.

Time-keeper Sheryl Schilling was introduced and approved.

Tellers Nancy Keith, Lea Filson, and Dwight Benson were introduced and approved.

Credentials were presented by Richard Smith: A quorum exists with 32 members and four guests in attendance.

Reports of the national officers were read by some. All reports are on file.

Reports of state officers were read by some. All reports that were submitted are on file. Special recognition was given to retiring Historians Laurie Behn and Peggy Durack. Recognition was given to all other Historians for the work they do for the Society.

Treasurer Mike Nichols went over the financials of the Society and explained the recommendations approved by the Board of Assistants/Directors at the meeting held on Friday afternoon, March 27, 2015. An endorsement of the recommendations was moved and approved. The recommendations are as follows:

1. The Governor create a Policy Committee, and that committee prepare a Whistleblower Policy and a Conflict of Interest Policy for approval by the Board of Assistants.
2. The Duties of the Officers in the Bylaws be changed to ensure compliance with the approved policies of the TXSOMD.
3. The approved Policies of the TXSOMD be added to the Yearbooks.

4. The Nominating Committee canvass the Colonies and identify a candidate for Treasurer so that individual can be added to the Finance Committee.

Finance Committee Chairperson Mike Nichols presented recommendations approved by the Board of Assistants/Directors at the meeting held on Friday afternoon, March 27, 2015. An endorsement of the recommendations was moved and approved. The recommendations are as follows:

1. Any surplus at the end of the 2015-2016 fiscal year be transferred to the Life Membership Fund.
2. A mid-year meeting of the Texas Society officers and the Colony Governors be held. \$800 has been budgeted to defray the expenses of this meeting.
3. A second scholarship be added, in the amount of \$1,000. This amount is included in the budget.
4. The Nominating Committee canvass the Colonies and identify a candidate for Treasurer so that individual can be added to the Finance Committee.

Endowment Committee Chairperson Bart Henson presented recommendations approved by the Board of Assistants/Directors at the meeting held on Friday afternoon, March 27, 2015. An endorsement of the recommendations was moved and approved. The recommendations are as follows:

1. Move the 2014 operating surplus of \$7,094 to the REIT index fund in the Life member fund to further shore up the Life Member Fund.
2. Sell \$6,056 of the Prime Money Market Fund in the Life Member fund and reinvest that in the REIT index fund in the Life Member Fund to increase earnings in the fund.
3. The addition into the Life Member fund shown above, combined with continued healthy growth in new Life Members, 3% earnings and 4% value growth per year should allow the Life Member fund to grow even with the continued use of 25 times the annual dues as the cost of a Life Membership. Therefore we should stick with the use of the Multiple of 25 times dues to avoid over pricing our Life Memberships.
4. Sell all the TISI holdings in the General Fund (about \$7,589) and move this to the Short Term Bond Fund still in the General Fund (1-3 year maturities).
5. Sell \$50,000 of the TSMI in the Mayflower Fund and invest this in the REIT index fund in the Mayflower Fund to reduce equity exposure at high market valuation.
6. Sell the Long Term Bond Index Fund (about \$46,461) and invest the proceeds in the Short Term Bond Index fund (both within the Mayflower Fund) to minimize the impact of rising interest rates.

Audit Committee Chairperson Charles Prince presented recommendations by the Board of Assistants/Directors at the meeting held on Friday afternoon, March 27, 2015. An endorsement of the recommendations was moved and approved. The recommendations are as follows:

1. With the move to streamline the process for Historians/Historians Assistants to purchase supplies, it is recommended that a new institution be investigated to provide the use of Credit Cards, including possibly through our current Vanguard Investments.
2. Request will be extended to the Education Committee to provide a resource list for the use of Education Funds, as some Colonies are not making full use of these funds.
3. Recommendation is made that funds not used by December 31st will be forfeited, and available for use by other Colonies.

4. Recommendation that competitive shop on pricing be approved based on Approved Vendor List.

5. The Committee agrees that Historian Expenses paid with a Texas Society debit card, be submitted quarterly to the treasurer. These receipts are to be scanned (using the provided scanner for each Historian), and only the scanned version is emailed quarterly to the Treasurer.

Recognition of the work done by the Society's financial leaders was given by the Governor pro tem.

The meeting resumed at 10:20 A.M. after a 10 minutes recess. Colony Governor reports were received. Reports submitted are on file.

Member Mary Eck offered some history pertaining to the drum owned by the Society and played during the opening day's ceremonies.

Bylaws Committee Chairperson Mike Nichols presented the recommended bylaws changes in sections according to topics. The following changes regarding dues increases were moved and approved:

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~~ Fifty dollars (~~\$145.00~~ 150.00). This sum includes a non-refundable application fee and the annual dues for the calendar year in which the application is approved. Upon receipt of the Preliminary Application and a check for One Hundred ~~Forty-five~~ Fifty dollars (~~\$145.00~~ 150.00) made out to TX SOMD, the appropriate Co-Historian shall send a worksheet, with instructions, to the applicant.

4. The Preliminary Application form is to read as follows: Application Fee, One Hundred Twenty dollars (\$ 120.00); Annual Dues, ~~Twenty-five~~ Thirty dollars (~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00).

B. Junior membership.

3. Junior Members under age 18 may become Life Members upon payment of the Life Membership Fee of ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, and after complying with all procedures for Regular membership as set forth in Article III, Section 2A. A Junior member of the Texas Society shall become a Life member upon payment of the Life Membership Fee of ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, after the approval of lineage papers by the state Co-Historian and the Historian General and after Texas and General Society numbers have been assigned. The Preliminary Application for the Junior member moving to become a Life member shall read: Application Fee, One Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$120.00), Life Membership Fee, ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, Total, ~~Seven Hundred Forty-five Dollars (\$745.00)~~ Eight Hundred Seventy dollars (\$870.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line.

C. Life membership. A Regular Member in good standing shall become a Texas Life Member upon payment of the Life Membership Fee of ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line. This fee may accompany the annual dues or be made at any time after the current dues have been paid. Life members shall thereafter be exempt from paying annual state dues. A new member may become a Life member upon payment of an additional ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, after being informed of acceptance into the Society. The Life Membership Fee is calculated at the rate of twenty-five times the annual state dues), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line.

ARTICLE IX: DUES AND FINANCE

SECTION 1. ANNUAL DUES.

A. Annual dues shall be ~~twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)~~ thirty dollars (\$30.00), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, payable to the Society Treasurer by January 1 of the year for which they apply.

SECTION 6. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

E. The Treasurer Shall:

~~11-9.~~ Deposit funds with the General Society in December and June to cover the payment of the application fees for applications submitted by the Co-Historians to the Historian General for approval.

F. The Co-Historians Shall:

20. Send a monthly report to the Treasurer of all applications submitted to the Historian General for approval.

The following changes regarding transfer and reinstatement fees were moved and approved:

SECTION 4. TRANSFERS, DUAL MEMBERSHIPS, TRANSFER FEES.

B. Transfer Fee. A member in good standing who requests a transfer from the Texas Society shall notify the Corresponding Secretary ~~and send a transfer fee of Ten dollars (\$10.00).~~

SECTION 5. RESIGNATION, REINSTATEMENT, & FORFEITURE.

C. Forfeitures. A former member who forfeited membership for nonpayment of dues and desires to be reinstated shall make application in writing to the Corresponding Secretary. The former member will resume membership upon payment of the current year's dues plus ~~the dues for the year in which the membership was forfeited~~ a reinstatement fee equal to dues for the current year.

The following changes regarding membership lists were moved and approved:

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 1. OFFICERS

E. The Treasurer Shall:

~~5. Maintain a complete and current list of members, including Life Members, and provide the Corresponding Secretary with monthly updated lists and, as needed, mailing labels.~~

~~8. 7. Notify the Corresponding Secretary and Newsletter Editor of members who have forfeited membership for non-payment of dues.~~

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

SECTION 3. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

E. The Newsletter/Publications Committee. ... The Newsletter/ Publications chairman shall use a current and complete list of members ~~identical to that of~~ supplied by the Corresponding Secretary.

The following changes regarding a Digital Records Archivist were moved and approved:

ARTICLE VII: BOARD OF ASSISTANTS/DIRECTORS

SECTION 2. DUTIES.

A. The Board of Assistants/Directors shall:

2. Approve the appointments of the Governor/President, including the chairmen of Standing and Special Committees, the Parliamentarian, ~~the~~ Digital Records Archivist, and the Trustees of the Endowment Fund.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 6. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

A. The Governor/President Shall:

14. Appoint a Digital Records Archivist.

M. The Digital Records Archivist Shall:

1. Attend all meetings of the Texas Society.

2. Maintain and update the digital records of the Society and distribute them to officers as necessary.

The proposed bylaws change to eliminate the office of Surgeon was withdrawn as it might be in conflict with General Society bylaws.

The following changes regarding library books were moved and approved:

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

SECTION 3. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

K. The Library Committee shall purchase and distribute Mayflower Five Generation Project Publications, identified in the *Mayflower Quarterly*, to designated libraries ~~within the area of each colony~~ approved by the BOA, as necessary, to maintain up-to-date collections at each library.

The following changes regarding Board of Assistants approval of the chairman of committees were moved and approved:

ARTICLE VII: BOARD OF ASSISTANTS/DIRECTORS

SECTION 2. DUTIES.

A. The Board of Assistants/Directors shall:

2. Approve the appointments of the Governor/President, including the chairmen of Standing and Special Committees, the Parliamentarian, the Digital Records Archivist, and the Trustees of the Endowment Fund, at the BoA meeting immediately following the election of new offices.

A memorial service was conducted by Elder Lisa Pennington for 14 members who had passed away since the 2014 State Annual Meeting.

A recess at 11:15 A.M. was approved for lunch.

The Luncheon started at 12:00 P.M. with a welcome from Governor pro tem Linda Hill.

Invocation was given by Lisa Pennington.

2015 Meeting committee was recognized by committee chair Leah Davis. Committee members were Bart Henson, Pat Howard, Nancy Keith, Lisa Pennington, Peggy Marsh, Charles Prince, Pamela Nieto, Richard Smith, Sandra Sauers, Sheryl Shilling, John Hunter, Jr., and Don Stone.

Luncheon activities that featured the Juniors from the Colony were conducted by Peggy Marsh.

A Junior Program ("Who, Where and How") was presented by Peggy Marsh from 1:15 – 2:15 for members wishing to attend.

The meeting afternoon business session was called to order at 2:25 P.M.

Nominating Committee Chairperson Pat Nichols introduced the nominees for state officers:

- Governor – Rick Denham
- Deputy Governor – Lorie Holbrooks
- Recording Secretary – Judie Allen
- Corresponding Secretary – Prarie Counce
- Treasurer – Mike Nichols
- Co-Historian – Betty Gosdin
- Co-Historian – Jennifer Mitten
- Co-Historian – Sheryl Schilling
- Assistant Historian – Elizabeth Heise
- Assistant Historian – Lavonne Bradfield
- Captain – Charles Prince
- Elder – Richard Smith
- Counselor – Lisa Pennington

The Governor pro tem asked for nominations from the floor. As there were no nominations from the floor, the officers were declared elected.

Nomination of Leah Davis for Nominating Committee Chairperson was moved and approved.

Nominee for Assistant General, Judie Allen, was moved and approved.

Scholarship Committee Chairperson Mary Eck reported the 2015 Texas Scholarship recipient is Catherine Caprio, a Junior member of the Society.

Governor Carol Scarborough's report was read to the members by Governor pro tem Linda Hill.

Governor General Lea Filson offered to advertise the state scholarships along with the GSMD scholarships on their website. She also will assess how many state societies offer scholarships.

Bart Henson expressed thanks on behalf of the members to Linda Hill for serving as Governor pro tem.

Mike Nichols inquired as to interest in online dues payment. A majority of members indicated an interest.

The meeting was recessed at 3:20 P.M. until the evening banquet at 7:00 P.M.

The banquet meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Governor pro tem Linda Hill.

The invocation was given by Elder Lisa Pennington.

Welcome and introductions were given by Houston Colony Governor Leah Davis.

Guest speaker, Governor General Lea Filson, spoke about "The Mayflower Society in the 21st Century, It's More Important Now Than Ever."

Mayflower Compact was read by Charles Prince.

Ancestor Roll Call was conducted by Bart Henson.

Award of recognition was given to Charles Prince and Michael Byrne by Judie Allen for their contributions to the Society.

An award of recognition for serving as Governor pro tem provided by Governor Scarborough was given to Linda Hill from Governor General Lea Filson.

Scholarship award was given to Catherine Prince Caprio, a Junior member of the Society.

Recognition medallion was given to Peggy Marsh by Leah Davis for work with Juniors.

Governor pro tem Linda Hill introduced new officers. New officers were installed by Governor General Lea Filson.

Presentation of the gavel and Governor's neck medallion to Rick Denham was performed by Linda Hill.

Courtesy Resolutions were read by Prarie Counce.

San Antonio Governor Michael Byrne extended an invitation for the 2016 State Annual Meeting.

The benediction was given by newly installed Elder, Richard Smith.

Rick Denham, Texas Mayflower Governor, adjourned the meeting at 9:30 P.M.

Prarie Counce
Recording Secretary pro tem

Minutes of the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants Board of Assistants/Directors Meeting 03/28/2015

The meeting was called to order by Governor pro tem Linda Hill at 3:28 P.M.

Governor pro tem Hill extended a welcome to new officers and committee chairs.

Treasurer Mike Nichols presented the 2015-2016 fiscal year proposed budget that was moved and approved.

The following appointments by Governor Rick Denham were moved and approved:

Audit Committee Chair: Charles Prince
Archivist: Laurie Behn
Awards Committee Chair: Dwight Benson
Bylaws Committee Chair: Lisa Pennington
Education Committee Chair: Leah Davis
Endowment Committee Chair: Bart Henson
Finance Committee Chair: Mike Nichols
Juniors Committee Chair: Peggy Marsh
Library Committee Chair: Linda Hill
Public Relations Committee Chair: Judie Allen
Newsletter/Publications Committee Chair: Pat Nichols
Scholarship Committee Chair: Richard Smith

Please note: The appointment of Charles Prince as Webmaster was accidentally omitted. The discussed removal of Webmaster as part of the Public Relations Committee was referred to the Bylaws Committee.

Personal contact information contained in the yearbook was discussed. It was agreed that any changes would need to be referred to the Bylaws Committee.

It was suggested that the Corresponding Secretary supply reminders in the newsletter to members to report any changes in their contact information.

A discussion about the storage of applications and accompanying documents resulted in the following motion: "It is moved that TXSOMD destroy in a secure manner all paper applications and supporting documents by year end 2015." The motion was approved.

Bart Henson inquired as to the acceptance of solicitation of funds from members for scholarships. The majority was in favor.

New wording for the scholarship eligibility statement was moved and approved. The wording follows: "The graduate may hold a Texas Junior Mayflower membership number or a parent or grandparent must be a currently verifiable member in good standing of the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants."

Elimination of the Annual Meeting Liaison position was discussed and referred to the Bylaws Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

Prarie Counce
Recording Secretary pro tem

Report of Executive Committee MEMBER –AT- LARGE Rick Denham

Immediately after the 40th Mayflower Congress the Executive Committee met for its first meeting. Members introduced themselves and the Governor General laid out her plans for 2014-2017. Her hopes and plans for the committee focused on increased communication between Plymouth and the State Societies. Each Member at Large was instructed to maintain regular monthly communications with the 17 states that each MAL would serve. The 3 MAL's were to decide which states each would serve. I am assigned the following: North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona. We also discussed what should be done with funds donated to the new "Governor General's 1620 Club." We voted to utilize the funds to give the "Silver Books Committee" additional revenue to expedite production of several updates and new editions including the Brewster 5 generation book.

We have monthly EC Conference Calls to discuss any urgent matters and give updates on pending programs.

Our first full EC meeting was held in December. At that meeting the needs of the Historian General's staff were discussed and it was voted to use remaining funds from the "GG's 1620 Club" to hire additional staff to address the backlog of applications.

Our March EC meeting was held on the 14th. The main focus was staffing and the effect weather had on staffing in Plymouth.

The next EC meeting is June 13/14.

2014-2015 Report of the TXSOMD Deputy Governor General

Report of the Deputy Governor General

Deputy Governor General Bart Henson admirably led the Texas delegation at the 40th Tri-Annual Congress in September, 2014. Mike Nichols was elected and installed as the new Deputy Governor General for Texas at that meeting.

Bart Henson and I jointly prepared a report on the 40th Tri-Annual Congress and it was sent to the Texas Board of Assistants in October, 2014.

The 2015 General Board of Assistants meeting will be held at the Foxwoods Resort in Ledyard, Connecticut on September 12. For the first time, a training and information day for GSMD Officers, Committee Chairs and State Society Officers will be held on Friday, September 11. Information about this upcoming meeting has been sent to the TXSOMD Board of Assistants members. Several members of the Texas Society are planning on attending this event.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Nichols
Deputy Governor General

2014-2015 Assistant General Report

The 2014 Texas State Conference was held and attended by the Assistant General, Pat Howard. In July, Michael Nichols was elected to be the AG at the 40th Mayflower Society General Congress, held September 7-9, 2014. He and Deputy Governor, Bart Henson, sent an informative report to the Texas Society BOA on the proceedings from the General Congress.

Following the conference, Michael Nichols became the Deputy Governor and Rick Denham was the Assistant General for the Texas Society. However, due to his office of General Society of Mayflower Descendants, Executive Committee, Member at Large, Rick Denham resigned as AG and Judie Allen was named acting AG by Governor Carol Scarborough in November of 2014.

The Assistant General and acting Assistant Generals have been involved with the conference calls by Governor General Lea Filson.

Respectfully submitted,

Judie Allen

Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants
State Meeting
Houston, TX
March 27-28, 2015

Report of the Governor
Carol Scarborough

The past two years have been a wonderful life experience for your Governor. Being taught by more experienced members who are extremely more versed in the working of our Mayflower Society was very gratifying.

The Governor's Board, along with Deputy Governor Ann Harder, and Treasurer Mike Nichols have done an outstanding job of keeping the governor informed of the business activities of the Society. These included signing and mailing of monthly checks, approval of expenditures, and notification of items to be ratified at this meeting. Prarie Counce was most attentive in sending out important notices necessary for open discussions, vote taking, and counting the results. Her services were invaluable and greatly appreciated. Recording Secretary and Assistant Secretary General Linda Hill along with our wonderful Co-Historians Laurie Behn and Peggy Durack plus their assistants kept the applications in good order. Special thanks are in order, too, for Elder Lisa Pennington for her thoughtful prayers and to Mike Byrne, our loyal Captain, who always persevered and succeeded in organizing a beautiful Color Guard presentation. Thanks also to our Surgeon Waid Rogers, M.D. and Counselor Wm. Dewitt Alsup.

A special thank you to our belabored Parliamentarian, Jane Power. God give you strength.

The Scholarship Committee chaired by Mary Eck worked diligently to select the first Texas Mayflower Scholarship recipient in 2014. The committee includes Lori Holbrooks and Dottie Tate. The recipient for the second Scholarship has been selected for 2015.

Your Governor has enjoyed every single moment of her tenure and is so sorry to be unable to be with you for the State Meeting of 2015. Your Governor knows

that Past Governor Hill will do a splendid job presiding and has complete faith in her abilities. As the treasured gavel and medallion are passed to Rick Denham know that your Governor sends best wishes to Rick, the newly installed officers and to the new Board of Assistants.

Carol Scarborough,
State Governor,
TXSOMD

RECORDING SECRETARY REPORT
March 27 and 28 2015

This officer has fulfilled the duties of her office as outlined in the TXSOMD Bylaws.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda L Hill

ENDOWMENT FUND

Recommendations to the Board of Assistants:

1. Move the 2014 operating surplus of \$7,094 to the REIT index fund in the Life member fund to further shore up the Life Member Fund.

2. Sell \$6,056 of the Prime Money Market Fund in the Life Member fund and reinvest that in the REIT index fund in the Life Member Fund to increase earnings in the fund.

3. The addition into the Life Member fund shown above, combined with continued healthy growth in new Life Members, 3% earnings and 4% value growth per year should allow the Life Member fund to grow even with the continued use of 25 times the annual dues as the cost of a Life Membership. Therefore we should stick with the use of the multiple of 25 times dues to avoid Aover pricing@ our Life Memberships.

4. Sell all the TISI holdings in the General Fund (about \$7,589) and move this to the Short Term Bond Fund still in the General Fund (1-3 year maturities)

5. Sell \$50,000 of the TSMI in the Mayflower Fund and invest this in the REIT index fund in the Mayflower Fund to reduce equity exposure at high market valuation.

6. Sell the Long Term Bond Index Fund (about \$46,461) and invest the proceeds in the Short Term Bond Index fund (both within the Mayflower Fund) to minimize the impact of rising interest rates.

	Before Changes	After Changes
Cash/ Equivalents	3.7%	2.5%
Bonds/Fixed Income	40.4%	53.2%
Equities	55.9%	44.3%
Total	100%	100%

2014-2015 Report of the Texas Mayflower Society Treasurer

Report of the Treasurer

The requests made last year by the Audit Committee have been, or are planned to be, implemented.

As of February 28, 2015, the Texas Society had \$12,598 in General Checking, \$1,605 on deposit with GSMD, \$8,148 in the General Operating fund at Vanguard, \$133,470 in the Life Member Fund at Vanguard, and \$377,873 in the Mayflower Endowment Fund at Vanguard, for a total of \$533,694

Total income for the 2014-2015 fiscal year was \$53,755, compared to the budget of \$49,125.00. Membership expenses were \$32,389, compared to the budget of \$26,670.00. Our Operational expenses were \$6,183, compared to the budget of \$9,313.00. Our Education, Library and Scholarship expenses were \$8089.22 compared to the budget of \$8,500.00. Total expenses were \$46,561 compared to the budget of \$45,075.00. We had a surplus of \$7,094 for the fiscal year, which was transferred into the Life Member Fund.

Historian expenses were \$6,075 compared to \$3,490 budgeted. We purchased scanners for our incoming Historian group members and an additional set of books for our 3rd Co-Historian.

Treasurer expenses were \$1,018 compared to \$500 budgeted. The Treasurer was using the scanner and printer assigned to the Archivist and new equipment was purchased as the existing equipment is being transferred to the new Archivist.

6 of our 8 Colonies asked for reimbursement for Educational expenses. This was a total of \$2,567.22 of the \$4,000 budgeted.

The Library Committee spent \$3022.00 compared to \$2,000.00 budgeted. One new library was added. The General Society accelerated funding for

2014-2015 Report of the Texas Mayflower Society Treasurer

development of the new Mayflower Families books which resulted in additional books being published and distributed.

The new Co-Historians and Assistant Historians are being issued debit cards so their expenses can be paid directly by the Texas Society.

The dues campaign went well. 12 additional members purchased Life Memberships.

I updated our Life Membership Analysis with the current status for the review by the Endowment Committee. The analysis now includes projected growth in the market value of the Life Member Fund.

We now have several members living overseas who are not able to pay their dues using US funds. I investigated several different methods of allowing on-line payment of dues. The most effective appears to be using secure shopping cart software facilitated by our web site hosting provider and securely handling the actual credit card payments through PayPal. I have developed the on-line application to provide this function.

In September the GSMD Tri-Annual GSMD Congress approved raising the GSMD dues from the current \$11 per active member to \$15 per active member, effective January 2016. I recommend increasing our TXSOMD annual dues to \$30 and our Life Member fee to \$750.

I prepared and filed IRS Form 990-EZ with the IRS for the Texas Society and, after receiving information from the Colonies, prepared and filed individual IRS Form 990-Ns for all of the Colonies. Our IRS group exemption was finally approved, and all of our Colonies are now covered under our 501(c)(3) standing. I then filed an amended IRS 990-EZ for the entire group. I will be again asking the Colonies for their financial information in order to prepare and file our group IRS 990-EZ.

The books were audited by the Audit Committee on March 7 2015.

2014-2015 Report of the Texas Mayflower Society Treasurer

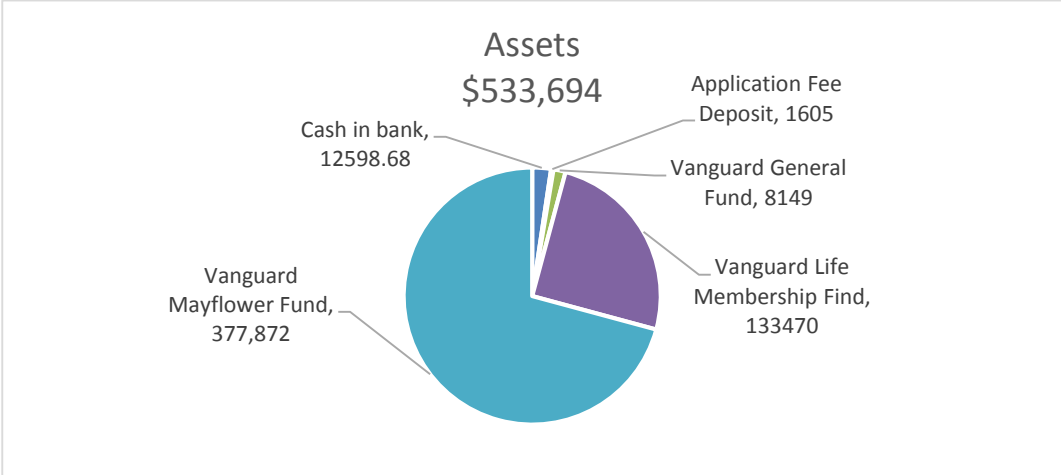
The Treasurer recommends that:

- The Governor create a Policy committee, and that committee prepare a Whistleblower Policy and a Conflict of Interest Policy for approval by the Board of Assistants.
- The Duties of the Officers in the Bylaws be changed to ensure compliance with the approved policies of the TXSOMD.
- The approved Policies of the TXSOMD be added to the Yearbooks.
- The Nominating Committee canvas the Colonies and identify a candidate for Treasurer so that individual can be added to the Finance Committee.

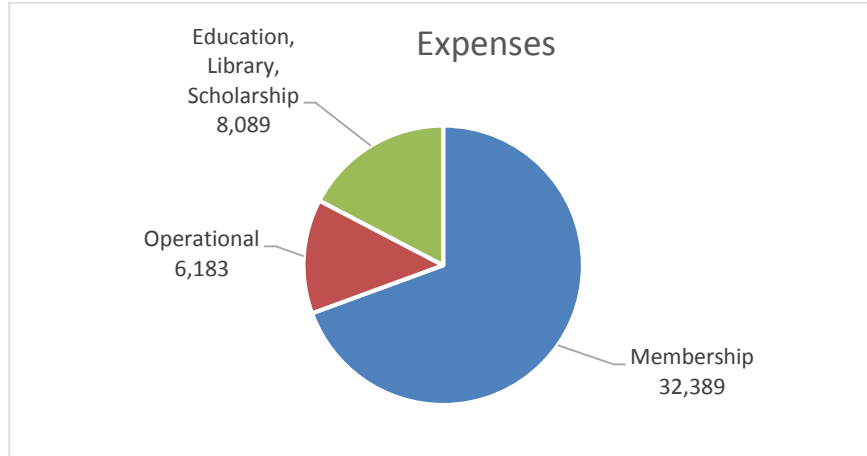
Respectfully submitted,

Mike Nichols
Treasurer

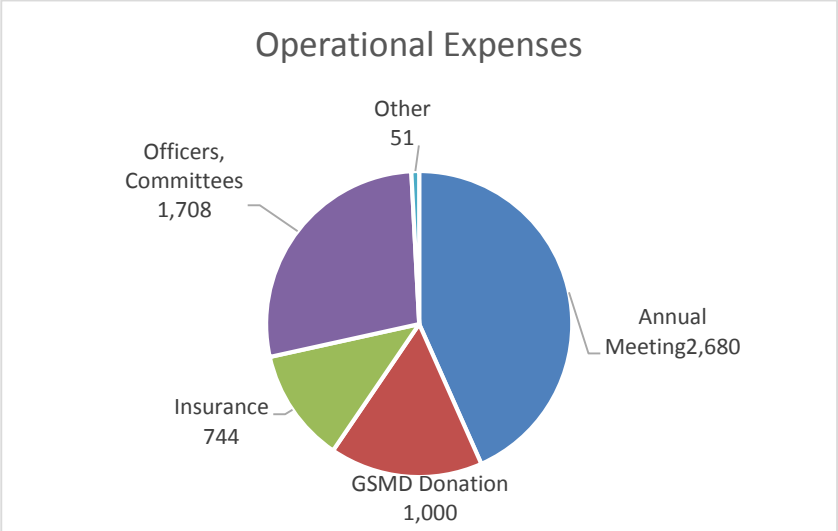
2014-2015 Report of the Texas Mayflower Society Treasurer



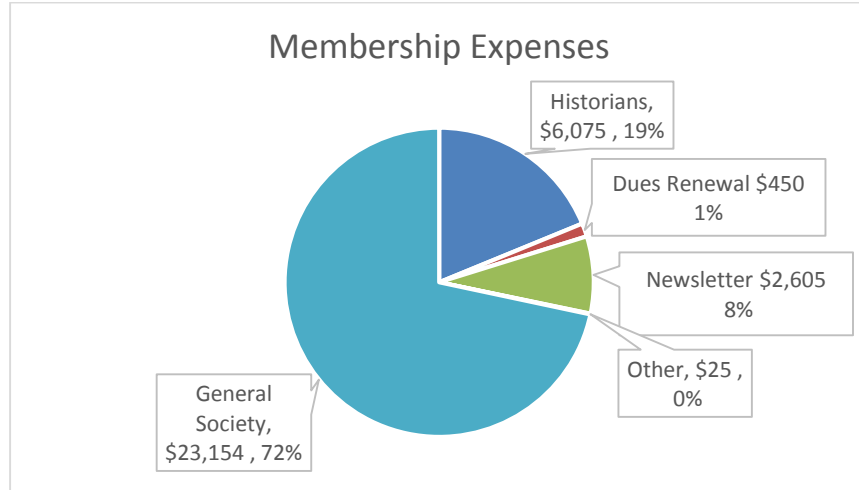
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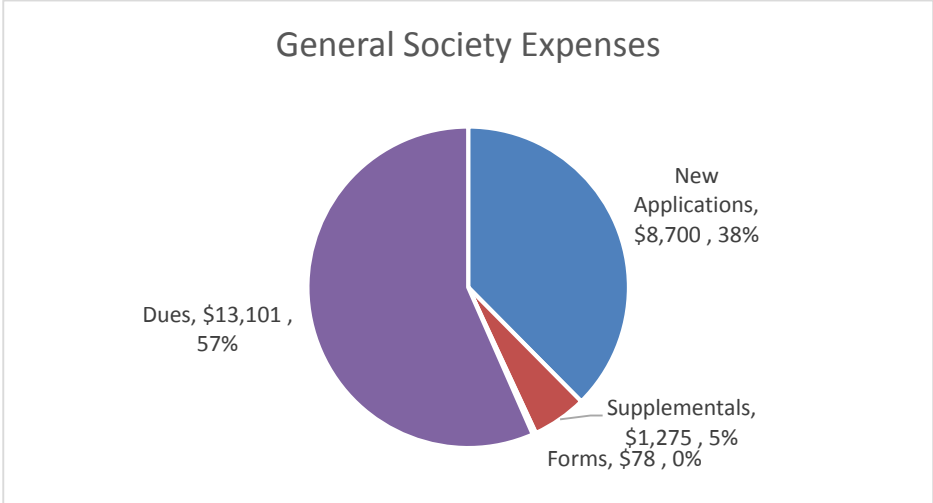
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2014-2015 Report of the Texas Mayflower Society Treasurer

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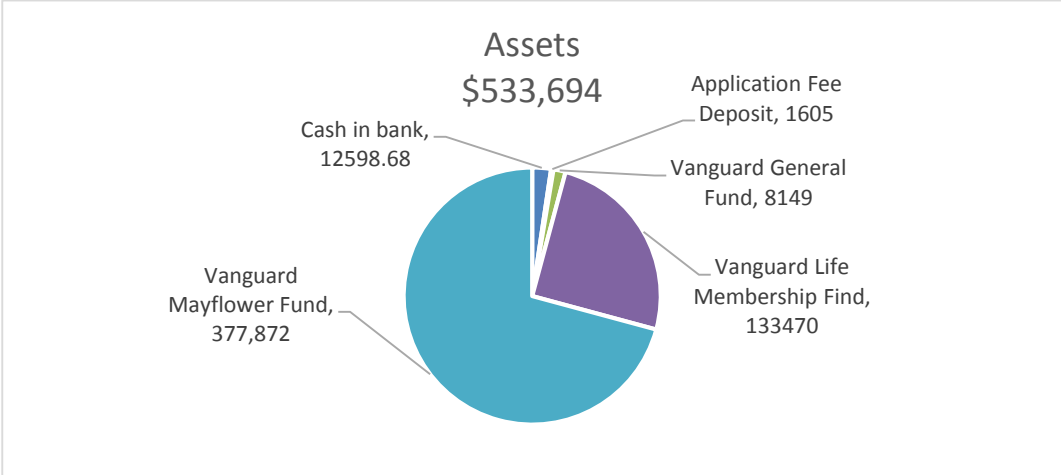
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- **The Nominating Committee canvas the Colonies and identify a candidate for Treasurer so that individual can be added to the Finance Committee.**

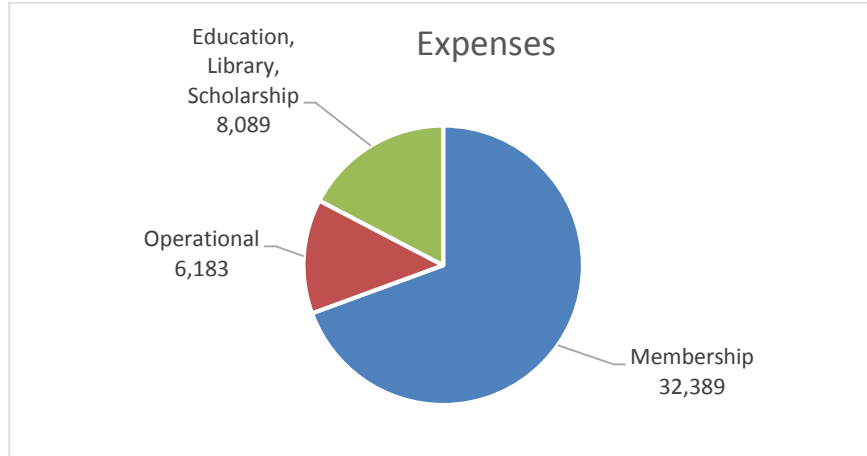
Respectfully submitted,

**Mike Nichols
Treasurer**

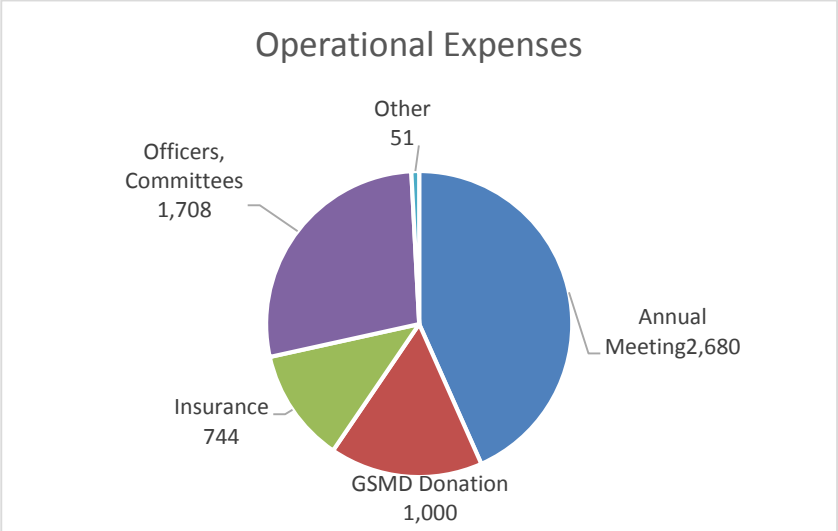
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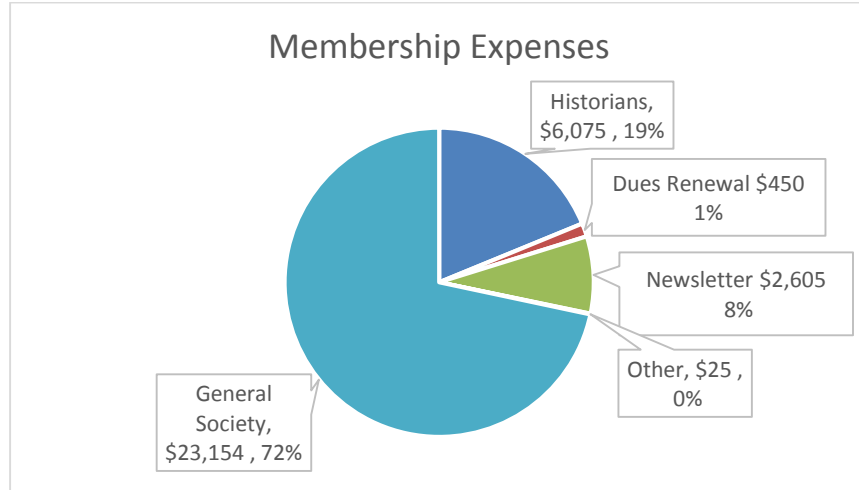
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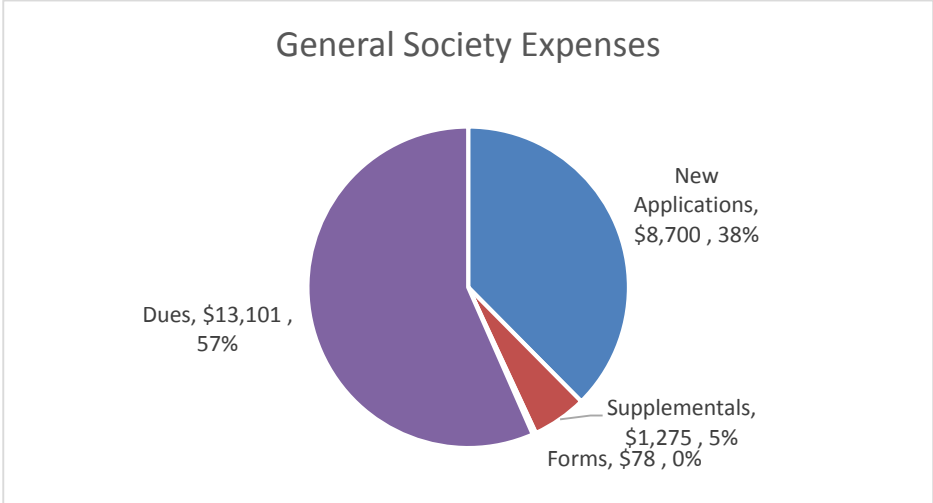
2014-2015 Report of the Texas Mayflower Society Treasurer



2014-2015 Report of the Texas Mayflower Society Treasurer



2014-2015 Report of the Texas Mayflower Society Treasurer



Report of the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on March 7 to review the finances of the Society and to prepare a recommended budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Budgeted Membership revenue for the 2015-2016 fiscal year is \$47,640. Other income and interest is budgeted at \$0. Scholarships and Education revenue is budgeted at \$10,000. Total budgeted revenue is \$57,640.

Budgeted Membership expenses are \$39,100 (68% of total expenses). Operational expenses are budgeted at \$8,533 (15% of total expenses). Scholarships and Education expenses are budgeted at \$10,000 (17% of total expenses).

The budget is balanced.

The Finance Committee recommendations that:

- Any surplus at the end of the 2015-2016 fiscal year be transferred to the Life Membership Fund.
- A mid-year meeting of the Texas Society officers and the Colony Governors be held. \$800 has been budgeted to defray the expenses of this meeting.
- A second scholarship be added, in the amount of \$1,000. This amount is included in the budget
- The Nominating Committee canvas the Colonies and identify a candidate for Treasurer so that individual can be added to the Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

2014-2015 Report of the TXSOMD Finance Committee

Mike Nichols

Finance Committee

Mike Nichols, Chairman

Bart Henson

Dwight Benson

Rick Denham

Michael Byrne

The Finance Committee recommendations

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- The Nominating Committee canvas the Colonies and identify a candidate for Treasurer so that individual can be added to the Finance Committee.

TXSOMD Audit Committee Report – Final 03/20/2015

Summary

On Saturday, March 7, 2015, the Audit Committee met in the Georgetown home of Mike Nichols to conduct the Annual Audit of the books of the Mayflower Society in the State of Texas. All financial books, records, statements and supporting documents were reviewed. All statements and accounts were in order and it was clear that careful attention had been given to the accounting during the fiscal year running from March 1, 2014 to February 28, 2015. No discrepancies in the accounts were found by the Committee. An unqualified audit approval of the records and statements was given by the Committee for the excellent work committed to by Mr. Nichols. A few recommendations were made to the Treasurer, Finance Committee and Endowment Committee as noted in the Recommendations section below.

Discussion

The Mayflower accounts continue to be maintained in QuickBooks accounting software, providing continuity that makes the Audit process very efficient. Various income, expense, transaction and asset statements were reviewed covering the fiscal year, and in comparison with the budget and prior years. Detailed spreadsheets showing historical trends by the line item and accounts were also provided and studied. The Treasurer also supplied the most recent account statements from Bank of America where we kept some of our Operating Account funds and Vanguard Investments where we maintain our investment accounts. All of these statements were again prepared with care and demonstrated the highest level of transparency, integrity, and great attention to detail that the Audit Committee has come to appreciate with our Treasurer. Cross checks confirmed the statements and the back-up asset account statements. These spot examinations confirmed the records were indeed accurate.

We reviewed progress against the audit recommendations from last year with the following results:

1. 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.

This has been done, and continues to be in process.

2. 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.

This has been done, and a copy was provided to the Committee.

3. 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.

This will be done as stated, and should a change in Vendor be desirable, it will be approved by the Finance Committee as has been established procedure.

4. 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(s), 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.

Recommendations

1. With the move to streamline the process for Historians/Historians Assistants to purchase supplies, it is recommended that a new institution be investigated to provide the use of Credit Cards, including possibly through our current Vanguard Investments.
2. Request will be extended to the Education Committee to provide a resource list for the use of Education Funds, as some Colonies are not making full use of these funds.
3. Recommendation is made that funds not used by December 31st will be forfeited, and available for use by other Colonies.
4. Recommendation that competitive shop on pricing be approved based on Approved Vendor List.
5. The Committee agrees that Historian Expenses paid with a Texas Society debit card, be submitted quarterly to the treasurer. These receipts are to be scanned (using the provided scanner for each Historian), and only the scanned version is emailed quarterly to the Treasurer.

Prepared by Charles R. Prince – Audit Chairman

Recommendations of the Audit Committee

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Prepared by Charles R. Prince – Audit Chairman

SOMD Texas – Endowment Committee Report

Duties of the Endowment committee come from our bylaws and standing rules to:

- Supervise the Endowment assets of the Texas Mayflower Society, investing for the long term while recognizing the needs for safety of principal, annual payments required and prevention of loss of value through inflation, annually reporting to the Board of Assistants.
- Oversee the Society gifting program
- Recommend the amount to be made available to support the Educational and Historical activities of the Texas Society.

The Endowment Committee met on March 7 at the home of the Treasurer Mike Nichols who had prepared excellent records for our consideration. Your Endowment Committee consists of:

- Bart Henson (2017), Chair
- Charles Prince (2015), Member
- Mike Nichols, Treasurer

Our Recommendations to the Board of Assistants last year had been followed with the exception of changing the multiple for new Life Members from 25 to 30 of annual dues. This recommendation was held in 2014 pending action in Plymouth on the new dues as well as a recalculation of the Life Member fund health which was done 3/2015 (see recommendation #3 below).

Our investments had a nice growth during the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year of 15%. (About 6% p.a. since 2007) After review of the data and situation, we made the recommendations shown below.

Recommendations to the Board of Assistants:

1. Move the 2014 operating surplus of \$7,094 to the REIT index fund in the Life member fund to further shore up the Life Member Fund.
2. Sell \$6,056 of the Prime Money Market Fund in the Life Member fund and reinvest that in the REIT index fund in the Life Member Fund to increase earnings in the fund.
3. The addition into the Life Member fund shown above, combined with continued healthy growth in new Life Members, 3% earnings and 4% value growth per year should allow the Life Member fund to grow even with the continued use of 25 times the annual dues as the cost of a Life Membership. Therefore we should stick with the use of the multiple of 25 times dues to avoid “over pricing” our Life Memberships.
4. Sell all the TISI holdings in the General Fund (about \$7,589) and move this to the Short Term Bond Fund still in the General Fund (1-3 year maturities)
5. Sell \$50,000 of the TSML in the Mayflower Fund and invest this in the REIT index fund in the Mayflower Fund to reduce equity exposure at high market valuation.
6. Sell the Long Term Bond Index Fund (about \$46,461) and invest the proceeds in the Short Term Bond Index fund (both within the Mayflower Fund) to minimize the impact of rising interest rates.

Investment Portfolio posture before and after these changes is as follows:

	<u>Before Changes</u>	<u>After Changes</u>
Cash/ Equivalents	3.7%	2.5%
Bonds/Fixed Income	40.4%	53.2%
Equities	<u>55.9%</u>	<u>44.3%</u>
Total	100%	100%

Texas Mayflower Investment Value (As of Feb. 28 of each Year)



Texas Mayflower Investment Fund Changes since 2/28/2014

Fund	2/28/2014	2/28/2015	Change	Comments
General Fund	\$16,619	\$20,748	\$4,129	Moved \$5,500 mainly to Life Member Fund + Earnings growth of \$760 + Operating Surplus
Life Member Fund	\$107,630	\$133,470	\$25,840	Added \$9,775 from General account + Earnings/Growth of \$7,806
Mayflower Fund	<u>\$339,307</u>	<u>\$378,818</u>	<u>\$39,511</u>	Added \$3,094 + Earnings/Growth of \$71,747
Total	\$463,556	\$533,036	\$69,480	Added \$2537 + Earnings of \$22,148 and Investment Growth of \$58,777
				Overall growth of 21.7% year over year

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Texas

Corresponding Secretary Report

March 2015

Membership count consisting of regular and life members as of March 15, 2015, was 1,165 members.

The Corresponding Secretary communicates regularly with the office of the Historian General reporting deaths, name changes, address changes, resignations, dropped members, reinstated members, new life members, transfers-in, transfers-out and dual memberships.

The Corresponding Secretary prepared the Annual Report for the Texas Society at the end of 2014 and submitted it to the Secretary General and required State Officers.

The Corresponding Secretary submits a monthly report regarding database changes to the Board of Assistants/Directors.

Certificates along with congratulatory letters have been sent to 2 new Life Members so far this year.

The Corresponding Secretary communicates with members and potential members as the opportunity arises or is requested by others.

The Corresponding Secretary works closely with the Treasurer, Historians, and the Governor of the State Society; and appreciates their help and guidance.

Prarie Counce

TXSOMD Corresponding Secretary

Report of Co-Historian
TX SOMD Meeting
March 17, 2015

This has been a very busy year in the office of Co-Historian. For the 2014 calendar year, membership has remained constant. We had 75 new members by application, and 8 transfers for 83 new members. We had 15 supplementals approved which was a 42% percent drop from last year. This can be attributed to the longer approval time of applications and supplementals which has increased from one month to four and even five months. Member interest in supplementals has remained strong as more are honoring other ancestors such as John Cooke, Mary Allerton and even Mrs. Edward Fuller. Through March 17th 2015, we added another 17 approvals for a total of 92 new members by application. Ancestor, William Brewster had the most applications (12), supplementals (2) approved for a total of 14. We currently have 45 applications pending in Plymouth.

This will be my last report as Co-Historian. I have worked under three different Historian Generals; Ann Lainhart, Paul Bumpus, and now Midge Hurtuk so I have seen various changes through this time. In order for this position to thrive there needs to be a way to spread the ever increasing work around. We are on the right track as the position of Assistant Historian was added. I would like to thank our Assistants, Lavonne Bradfield, Jennifer Mitten, and Sheryl Schilling for the countless hours they have spent. Peggy Durack, Co-Historian completes this list of dedicated volunteers.

In addition, a big thank you to Madeline Alworth, Junior Chair who since 2009 has been working on Junior membership.

It has been a pleasure to serve the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Texas.

Laurie Behn
Co-Historian, Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants

REPORT OF THE STATE ELDER

TXSOMD MEMBER DEATHS SINCE 2014 MEETING

- GS57296, TX1574, Dr. George Brandau, 2929 Post Oak Blvd Ofc, Houston, TX 77056-6150, on April 2, 2014, ancestor William Brewster
- GS37400, TX870, Virginia B McConnell, 2205 Weatherbee, Ft. Worth, TX 76110-1247, on 7-25-2014, ancestor John Howland
- GS58853, TX1711, Edwin Sykes, Jr. MD on 12-24-2013, San Angelo, TX, ancestor John Howland
- GS79443, TX2634, Susan Gail Sullivan-Weir, 205 Chichester Pl, San Antonio, TX, on 10-7-2014, ancestor Richard Warren
- GS64843, TX1984, Harlen Green, 218 Legend Oaks, Georgetown, TX 78628-5013, on November 13, 2014, ancestor John Howland
- GS39668, TX979, Margaret A. Reeves, 3307 Arawak Place, Farmers Branch, TX 75234-2201, on November 2, 2014, ancestor Edward Fuller
- GS53690, TX1415, Bonnie Gae Howe Haight, 1 Towers Park Ln Apt 711, San Antonio, TX 78209-6434, on November 30, 2014, ancestor William White
- GS55804, TX1490, Henry H. McGinty, 2233 S 13th St, Abilene, TX 79605-4215, on 11-11-2013, ancestor John Alden
- GS59073, TX1740, Barbara May Honea, 1410 S Hughes St, Amarillo, TX 79102-1636, on 10-11-2014, ancestors William Brewster and Richard Warren
- GS65254, TX2003, Ruth Hedden on December 23, 2014, 3613 Greenway Dr, Bedford, TX 7021-2628, ancestor Henry Samson
- GS87725, TX3139, Lawrence Tyler Francis, 3947 Flamingo, El Paso, TX 79902-1726, on November 24, 2014, ancestor Francis Cooke
- GS69486, TX2151, Elmo Lee Brockman on November 21, 2013, ancestor William Bradford
- GS71551, TX2218, Doris Jean Tyler Foreman on September 22, 2014, ancestor William Bradford
- GS77121, TX2516, Charles Pendleton, 2224 River Rd, Grandbury, TX 76048-2681, on December 13, 2014, ancestor John Alden

Report of the State Captain

The Society Year of 2014-15 presented no new issues for the State Captain and no new flag sets were requested by the Colonies.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael B. Byrne

Captain
Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Texas

Report of the Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Committee recommends the following changes to the Bylaws.

1. Dues Increase

Reason: Implement the dues increase and the change in the payment of application fees which were approved by the General Society at the 40th Congress in September, 2014, and enabling on-line dues payments, with an additional service fee to offset the fees charged by the service provider for credit card processing.

Proposed Changes:

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~~ Fifty dollars (~~\$145.00~~ 150.00). This sum includes a non-refundable application fee and the annual dues for the calendar year in which the application is approved. Upon receipt of the Preliminary Application and a check for One Hundred ~~Forty-five~~ Fifty dollars (~~\$145.00~~ 150.00) made out to TX SOMD, the appropriate Co-Historian shall send a worksheet, with instructions, to the applicant.

4. The Preliminary Application form is to read as follows: Application Fee, One Hundred Twenty dollars (\$ 120.00); Annual Dues, ~~Twenty-five~~ Thirty dollars (~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00).

B. Junior membership.

3. Junior Members under age 18 may become Life Members upon payment of the Life Membership Fee of ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars~~ (~~\$625.00~~) Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BOA if paid on-line, and after complying with all procedures for Regular membership as set forth in Article III, Section 2A. A Junior member of the Texas Society shall become a Life member upon payment of the Life Membership Fee of ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars~~ (~~\$625.00~~) Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00), plus an additional fee approved by the BOA if paid on-line, after the approval of lineage papers by the state Co-Historian and the

Historian General and after Texas and General Society numbers have been assigned. The Preliminary Application for the Junior member moving to become a Life member shall read: Application Fee, One Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$120.00), Life Membership Fee, ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, Total, ~~Seven Hundred Forty-five Dollars (\$745.00)~~ Eight Hundred Seventy dollars (\$870.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line.

C. Life membership. A Regular Member in good standing shall become a Texas Life Member upon payment of the Life Membership Fee of ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00)), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line. This fee may accompany the annual dues or be made at any time after the current dues have been paid. Life members shall thereafter be exempt from paying annual state dues. A new member may become a Life member upon payment of an additional ~~Six Hundred Twenty-five dollars (\$625.00)~~ Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$750.00), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, after being informed of acceptance into the Society. The Life Membership Fee is calculated at the rate of twenty-five times the annual state dues), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line.

ARTICLE IX: DUES AND FINANCE

SECTION 1. ANNUAL DUES.

A. Annual dues shall be ~~twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)~~ thirty dollars (\$30.00), plus an additional fee approved by the BoA if paid on-line, payable to the Society Treasurer by January 1 of the year for which they apply.

SECTION 6. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

E. The Treasurer Shall:

~~11.~~**9.** Deposit funds with the General Society in December and June to cover the payment of the application fees for applications submitted by the Co-Historians to the Historian General for approval.

F. The Co-Historians Shall:

20. Send a monthly report to the Treasurer of all applications submitted to the Historian General for approval.

2. Transfer and reinstatement fees

Reason: Clarification of the Reinstatement Fee and the elimination of the Transfer out Fee,

Proposed Changes:

SECTION 4. TRANSFERS, DUAL MEMBERSHIPS, TRANSFER FEES

B. Transfer Fee. A member in good standing who requests a transfer from the Texas Society shall notify the Corresponding Secretary ~~and send a transfer fee of Ten dollars (\$10.00).~~

SECTION 5. RESIGNATION, REINSTATEMENT, & FORFEITURE

C. Forfeitures. A former member who forfeited membership for nonpayment of dues and desires to be reinstated shall make application in writing to the Corresponding Secretary. The former member will resume membership upon payment of the current year's dues plus ~~the dues for the year in which the membership was forfeited~~ a reinstatement fee equal to dues for the current year..

3. Membership lists

Reason: Remove references to membership lists other than the list maintained by the Corresponding Secretary.

Proposed Change:

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 1. OFFICERS

E. The Treasurer Shall:

~~5. Maintain a complete and current list of members, including Life Members, and provide the Corresponding Secretary with monthly updated lists and, as needed, mailing labels.~~

~~8. 7. Notify the Corresponding Secretary and Newsletter Editor of members who have forfeited membership for non-payment of~~

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

SECTION 3. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

E. The Newsletter/Publications Committee. The Newsletter/Publications chairman shall use a current and complete list of members ~~identical to that of~~ supplied by the Corresponding Secretary.

4. Digital Records Archivist

Reason: Formalize the appointment of the Digital Records Archivist

Proposed Changes:

ARTICLE VII: BOARD OF ASSISTANTS/DIRECTORS

SECTION 2. DUTIES.

A. The Board of Assistants/Directors shall:

2. Approve the appointments of the Governor/President, including the chairmen of Standing and Special Committees, the Parliamentarian, the Digital Records Archivist, and the Trustees of the Endowment Fund.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 6. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

A. The Governor/President Shall:

14. Appoint a Digital Records Archivist.

M. The Digital Records Archivist Shall:

1. Attend all meetings of the Texas Society.
2. Maintain and update the digital records of the Society and distribute them to officers as necessary.

5. Eliminate the office of Surgeon

Reason: The Nominating Committee has recommended eliminating the office of Surgeon, as has been done in several other state societies.

Proposed Change:

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 1. OFFICERS

A. Elected Officers. The elected officers of the Society shall be a Governor/President, a Deputy Governor, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, two or more Co-Historians, and Assistant Historians as necessary, an Elder, a Captain, ~~a Surgeon~~, and a Counselor.

SECTION 6. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

~~**J. The Surgeon Shall:**~~

~~1. Have been admitted to the practice of medicine in the State of~~

Texas.

~~2. Be under the direction of the Governor/President and the Board of Assistants/Directors.~~

~~3. Notify the Corresponding Secretary of any known changes in classification, name, address, telephone number, or death of members.~~

6. Library Books

Reason: The Library Committee has requested clarification regarding the designation of libraries to receive the Mayflower Families books.

Proposed Change:

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

SECTION 3. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

K. **The Library Committee** shall purchase and distribute Mayflower Five Generation Project Publications, identified in the *Mayflower Quarterly*, to designated libraries ~~within the area of each colony~~ approved by the BOA, as necessary, to maintain up-to-date collections at each library.

7. Board of Assistants approval of the chairman of committees

Reason: Clarification of the timing of the approval of the newly elected Governors' appointments by the Board of Assistants.

Proposed Changes:

ARTICLE VII: BOARD OF ASSISTANTS/DIRECTORS

SECTION 2. DUTIES.

A. The Board of Assistants/Directors shall:

2. Approve the appointments of the Governor/President, including the chairmen of Standing and Special Committees, the Parliamentarian, the Digital Records Archivist, and the Trustees of the Endowment Fund, at the BOA meeting immediately following the election of new offices.

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Texas

2015

Report of Awards Committee

Nancy Parker, Chair
Judie Allen, Corpus Christi Colony
Carolyn Fossett, Corpus Christi Colony

Once again, the Awards Committee has selected two recipients for 2015 to be honored by having their names accompany the annual monetary gift from the Texas Society to Plymouth.

The recipients are being honored for their service and contributions of their time to the Society.

In keeping with the process outlined on page 128 of the 2013-15 yearbook, the Awards Committee solicited nominations from colony governors, and received two names, along with the requisite five letters of recommendation for each.

Committee members read each letter, and found that both nominees met, and even exceeded, the parameters by which the award is to be bestowed. Therefore, it is the decision of the committee to bestow the award on both nominees; Charles Prince, a member of the Houston Colony, and Michael Byrne, a member of the San Antonio Colony.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Parker

Chair, Awards Committee

The Society of Mayflower Descendants

Of the State of Texas

Education Committee

Annual Report

2014-2015

March 16, 2015

This has been a special year for education with the Texas colonies. It began with an excellent workshop at the 2014 annual meeting in Dallas. The Houston Colony and the Dallas/Fort Worth colonies worked together to prepare and present an excellent program with displays and helpers. They demonstrated how they used their resources, providing a list of these resources, how they dressed for presentations, the props used, how they planned for the forthcoming year, how they drew in other colony members and how they summarized at yearend, checking up on themselves to see where and how they could do better, reach more people and generate more interest and enthusiasm. This was a tall order, but being Texan and Pilgrim in their roots, the task was met with alacrity and ease by these women.

New programs were taking place in other colonies as a result of this education program at the 2013-2014 meeting. The preponderance of the education programs appears to remain in the pre-school to fifth grade children, not only the children but teachers were also included by leaving material packets and books for their classrooms or library. The consensus was that the librarians are the best 'go-to' professionals within the school systems. They want our displays, books, and programs. But, do not neglect principals and especially teachers. Teachers welcome lesson plans, available from the list of resources, and especially prepared packets of educational materials. These packets can be quite expensive and most teachers have to provide their tools themselves. Repeat visits and word-of-mouth appear to be the best mode of communication to get on their list. However, some colonies found that letters requesting time for presentations were also effective. More than 2,500 Texas children in this age bracket were able to hear the saga of the Pilgrims...their beginning, the voyage, their first year and more from the planning and work of these dedicated Mayflower descendants. These children participated, asked questions and became enthused and interested in this group of people from the 15th century, all due to the work of the TXSOMD education volunteers.

Other groups are beginning to be interested and requesting presentations from the various colonies. These groups include other genealogical organizations such as the DAR, DAC and the Colonial Dames, churches, and youth organizations such as BSA.

It was amazing to read how one group leads to another. Example: The Corpus Christi Colony which was motivated by the education workshop last year said in their report, "we were very fortunate to be invited into the classrooms. One principal, one teacher and two members of the Colonial Dames were given information and a worksheet for membership into the Mayflower Society. With these programs and a genealogical workshop.....we have 6 people working on applications."

Our colonies are working on scholarships, donations of children's books to various libraries and donations of Silver books to public libraries. In one instance, 3 and ½ cases of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Texas and Their Lineages, Volume 4 to various genealogy research groups.

Attached are the summary reports of the Texas colonies. The committee again is overwhelmed by the work, thought, devotion and time exerted by the few for the many. We have spoken with chair persons whose dedication to the overall goal of educating our communities and further encouraging the awareness of the Pilgrim Fathers is obvious. We are pleased to submit this report on behalf of the Texas Colonies of the Society of the Mayflower Descendants.

Respectfully submitted,

TXSOMD Education Committee

Sherry Kroboth, Chairperson

Library Committee Report 2014

The new publication of *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Volume 21, John Billington*, were distributed to all of our designated libraries in July.

All of the 2013 libraries were up to date through July of 2014. As discussed at the BOA in March 2014, due to the fact that two of these libraries were in duplicate locations, they were dropped in November as designated libraries. These two libraries were the Longview Library which is in the same area as our Tyler Library and the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society Library which is in the same town as the San Antonio Public Library. This allowed the addition of libraries in areas that have not had access to the Silver Books. A complete set of available publications of the *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations* is now in the Harlingen Public Library in Harlingen, Texas. This was accomplished in November of 2014 bringing our total to eleven designated libraries. Thanks to Elizabeth Heise who helped with this project.

This put expenses for 2014 over budget, however, because of the strong belief that this would help with membership and possibly a new colony in the South Texas, the decision was made to proceed. This was discussed with treasurer, Mike Nichols and State Governor, Carol Scarborough, who both agreed that this was an important mission of our Texas Society.

Thus being said, at the end of December, *Philip Delano Part 5*, (Pink Book) was published and sent to the libraries.

With the emphasis of the 1620 Fund being dedicated for the publication of the Silver Books, it is anticipated that more books will be published in the near future as evident by the February publication of *Elder William Brewster, Volume 24*. This was an expense not anticipated by this committee but not unappreciated.

The Library Committee for 2014-2015, Judie Allen, chair, Corpus Christi Colony; Leah Davis, Houston Colony; and Nancy Parker, Corpus Christi Colony were pleased to serve.

Respectfully submitted.

Judie Allen, Library Committee Chair

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

I have no report as the Publications Committee has not met recently.

Bill Marrs

Nominations Committee: Pat Nichols

**PRESENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE'S SLATE
AND ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS**

Governor: Rick Denham

Dep. Gov: Lorie Holbrooks

Rec. Sec: Judie Allen

Treasurer: Mike Nichols

Co Hist: Betty Gosdin

Co Hist: Jennifer Mitten

Co Hist: Sheryl Schilling

Asst Hist: Elizabeth Heise

Asst Hist: Lavonne Bradfield

Captain: Charles Prince

Elder: Richard Smith

Counselor: Lisa Pennington

TEXAS SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS
State Meeting
REPORT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Houston, TX
March 27-28, 2015

Mary Eck,
Dorothy Tate
Lori Rubenser Holbrooks

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to report on the selection of the 2015 Texas Scholarship recipient. She is Catherine Caprio of Round Rock. She has a splendid academic record along with commendable school and community activities. Catherine and her parents have been invited to attend the banquet of this state meeting.

Catherine is a Junior member, number TJ964. Her grandmother, Betty Prince, is also a member of the GSMD and TSMD and the current secretary of the Central Texas Colony. Betty is planning on attending the banquet, also.

I believe that I speak for the other two members of this committee in relating that it has been a great pleasure to serve on this committee. It has proved to be a joy to examine the applications which reveals the kind of students who not only make good grades in their classes but who also participate in many school activities and as well as activities in their communities. I personally am proud of these Texas students who submitted applications.

As we reported at the 2014 state meeting, the committee has run into unexpected and unforeseen issues that we feel should be corrected to make the process run more smoothly for the scholarship committee members of the future. Since none of us were on the committee that wrote the application we have no insight into the thinking that went into this document which, on the whole, is very workable and has not, to our knowledge, caused the applicants any problems.

Consideration needs to be given to the following statements.

The section on the eligibility needs to be reworked to reflect our desires for the best use of the scholarship money and to make the document more workable for the committee.

Currently it reads:

To Whom Given

A Texas graduating high school senior who will be accepted for enrollment in an accredited institution of higher learning either in Texas or out-of-state (college, university, community college).

*No problem with this first part.

Second part of the statement:

The graduate may hold a junior Mayflower membership number or a parent or grandparent must hold a membership in the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and/or the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants.

*This statement needs much more clarification.

The issues I want us to consider stem from these things we encountered.

*Applicants who report an out of state ancestor on which to base their application. This is generally a grandparent.

* However, neither of the applicant's parents, who reside in Texas, are members of the GSMD Society or Texas Society.

*It is somewhat difficult to check out the status of membership of the out-of-state ancestor used and to learn if they are current members of the Society. We suspect, after research, one of the applicant was using an out-of-state, deceased member who, of course, would not be considered a member anymore.

Question: Do we want the Texas scholarship and Texas money used for an applicant who does not have ties to the Texas Society?

Question: Do we expect the applicant's ancestor to be a current member with current dues paid? Consider the status of a deceased ancestor.

The Scholarship Committee suggests the following rewording of the statement in question:

The graduate may hold a junior Mayflower membership number and/or the applicant must be a descendant of a current Mayflower Society or Texas Society member, either a parent or grandparent under the following conditions:

***The parent or grandparent must be a current member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and/or the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants.**

***Should the parent or grandparent reside in another state and be a current member in the named state, proof of current membership must be provided by applicant.**

***Should the parent or grandparent be deceased, the membership is no longer valid and the application will not be considered.**

Question: Do we wish to allow another state to be involved in our scholarship in this manner? Or do we wish to have this scholarship with only Texas ties? Was the original thought that the ancestor used in the application be used as it is applied in our membership papers?

The scholarship committee recommends consideration be given to rewording the eligibility statement after a discussion by this body to assess what we want for the scholarship. These are serious considerations for us to discuss and resolve.

For your further information, there were two inquiries by young men who were interested in applying for the scholarship for graduate work at a university. They were informed that, at this time, the scholarship is for graduating High School seniors.

There was one inquiry by a young lady who did not understand the eligibility and thought she could apply. Again, this chairman carefully explained why she could not apply.

The Scholarship Committee joins the Financial and Endowment committees in recommending the raising of the scholarship money from the current \$3000 for one scholarship to \$3000 for the first place recipient and an additional \$1000 for a second scholarship.

This chairman recommends that the Scholarship Chairman be removed from the heading of "Other Committees" and be included in the Standing Committees. This committee has an important state responsibility and should be on the Board of Assistants. The list of Standing Committees can be read on page 10 of the yearbook.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Consider rewording the eligibility statement after a discussion by this body to assess what we want for the scholarship.
2. Raise the scholarship money from the current \$3000 for one scholarship to \$3000 for the first place recipient and an additional \$1000 for a second scholarship.
3. The Scholarship Chairman be removed from the heading of “Other Committees” and be included in the Standing Committees.

Question: Do we want the Texas scholarship and Texas money used for an applicant who does not have ties to the Texas Society?

Question: Do we expect the applicant’s ancestor to be a current member with current dues paid? Consider the status of a deceased ancestor.

Question: Do we wish to allow another state to be involved in our scholarship in this manner? Or do we wish to have this scholarship with only Texas ties? Was the original thought that the ancestor used in the application be used as it is applied in our membership papers?

The Committee suggests the following eligibility rewording

1. The graduate may hold a junior Mayflower membership number and/or the applicant must be a descendant of a current Mayflower Society or Texas Society member, either a parent or grandparent under the following conditions:
2. *The parent or grandparent must be a current member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and/or the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants.
3. *Should the parent or grandparent reside in another state and be a current member in the named state, proof of current membership must be provided by applicant.
4. *Should the parent or grandparent be deceased, the membership is no longer valid and the application will not be considered.

TEXAS SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

Report of the Liaison Chairman Annual Meeting Houston, TX March 27-28, 2015

The Liaison chairman reports that the guidelines for the Annual meetings were sent to the Houston chairman to follow in the preparation of the 2015 Annual meeting.

Several items of correspondence were exchanged between the Liaison and host chairman regarding plans for the meeting.

The budget for the March 2015 meeting is to be sent the Liaison and state treasure to be filed.

This chairman has statements to put on record and/or serve as recommendations for the board.

1. The printed guidelines that were adopted at a previous annual meeting (2012/13) should to be printed in the Standing rules of the yearbook. This will prevent these guidelines from the possibility of becoming lost and unavailable to host colonies, as happened in past years. These problems might have been prevented had the guidelines been easily available in print and in our yearbook
2. Once the printed guidelines are permanently listed in the state yearbook, this chairman believes there is little need for the position of Liaison.
3. The Liaison chairman as evidenced in section 17 of the Standing Rules is given responsibilities to perform but has no authority to carry these out. These responsibilities are listed in the yearbook on page 136-137 for the membership to read.

4. After serving as Liaison for the past three years I have observed the way this position has been gratefully accepted, been found quite useful, but also has been ignored when a colony felt no need to follow the guidelines or accept help and advice from the Liaison.

5. The Liaison is listed as an appointed position which is without a seat on the Board of Assistants. Two other committees, Scholarship and Archivist, also do not have a seat on the board. I believe that committee chairman that serve in an annual position and report to the Board of Assistants should be included on the Board of Assistants in the list titled, Standing Committees.

MEETING LIAISON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE BOARD

1. The printed guidelines that were adopted at a previous annual meeting (2012/13) should to be printed in the Standing rules of the yearbook. This will prevent these guidelines from the possibility of becoming lost and unavailable to host colonies, as happened in past years. These problems might have been prevented had the guidelines been easily available in print and in our yearbook
2. Once the printed guidelines are permanently listed in the state yearbook, this chairman believes there is little need for the position of Liaison.
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5. The Liaison is listed as an appointed position which is without a seat on the Board of Assistants. Two other committees, Scholarship and Archivist, also do not have a seat on the board. I believe that committee chairman that serve in an annual position and report to the Board of Assistants should be included on the Board of Assistants in the list titled, Standing Committees.

2014-2015 TXSOMD Report of the Records Archivist

Report of the Digital Records Archivist

The Texas Mayflower Society digital records archive has been maintained throughout 2014 as records were made available from the Co-Historians.

The Membership Proof Document archive currently contains proof documents for 1,380 members. There are 57,083 scanned pages in this archive.

The Membership Application archive currently contains the applications for 3,096 members. There are 14,640 scanned pages in this archive.

The Corresponding Secretary archive currently contains 680 scanned pages.

The Recording Secretary archive currently contains 2,519 scanned pages.

The Treasurer archive currently contains 20,900 scanned pages.

The Digital Records Archivist recommendations that:

- A Digital Records Archive policy be adopted by the Board of Assistants, future Archivists report annually on the status of the archives, and the TXSOMD Bylaws be changed to add "Follow the Digital Records Archive policy" to the duties of the appropriate officers..
- The success of the Digital Archives project is totally dependent upon the appropriate officers making their records available to be added to the archives.
 - The work of the Co-Historians may be hampered if their records are out of their possession.
 - In discussion with the GSMD Director of Genealogy Research and Services, I suggest that we only ask applicants to supply a single copy of their proof documents and that the Co-Historian scan the documentation package at the time it is sent to

2014-2015 TXSOMD Report of the Records Archivist

Plymouth for review and approval.

- The physical membership documents, are in the possession of Laurie Behn, and stored at her personal expense. I recommend that the Board of Assistants decide what is to be done with these documents and implement that decision.
- An internet domain name of txsomb.com was registered on February 13, 2011 and the Texas Co-Historians use the email address historian@txsomb.com to communicate with applicants. The fees for this domain are not being paid by the TXSOMB, and the domain name is not registered to the TXSOMB. Either the TXSOMB should take over this domain or the functionality should be provided by the existing texasmayflower.com internet domain.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Nichols
Records Archivist

The Digital Records Archivist recommends that:

- 1 A Digital Records Archive policy be adopted by the Board of Assistants,**
- 2 Future Archivists report annually on the status of the archives, and**
- 3 The TXSOMD Bylaws be changed to add “Follow the Digital Records Archive policy’ to the duties of the appropriate officers.**

The success of the Digital Archives project is totally dependent upon the appropriate officers making their records available to be added to the archives. The work of the Co-Historians may be hampered if their records are out of their possession.

In discussion with the GSMD Director of Genealogy Research and Services, I suggest that we

- 4 Ask applicants to supply a single copy of their proof documents and that the Co-Historian scan the documentation package at the time it is sent to Plymouth for review and approval.**

The physical membership documents, are in the possession of Laurie Behn, and stored at her personal expense.

- 5. I recommend that the Board of Assistants decide what is to be done with these documents and implement that decision.**

An internet domain name of txsomd.com was registered on February 13, 2011 and the Texas Co-Historians use the email address historian@txsomd.com to communicate with applicants. The fees for this domain are not being paid by the TXSOMD, and the domain name is not registered to the TXSOMD.

- 6. Either TXSOMD should take over the domain name of txsomd.com or the functionality should be provided by the existing texasmayflower.com internet domain.**

TXSOMD Webmaster Report – 3/20/2015

The website, www.TexasMayflower.com continues to be maintained as needed by the Webmaster, with considerable assistance, guidance, and patience by Mike Nichols.

It was brought to our attention that Newsletters posted to the website included the names and addresses of new members, and there was concern as to this practice. The board agreed that this practice would not continue and any Newsletters with this information would be revised. Immediate action was taken, and the revised Newsletters were posted, replacing any that had previously shown such date.

Requests for items to be added to the website requires documents to be provided as a PDF.

Recent discussion arose over how best to handle a Junior Member website. Perhaps we would want to address how to address any “spin-off” sites that might come up. The Webmaster sees potential issues if our official state website (provided and supported by the TXSOMDS) is not the only site used by those with connection to the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants. Might it be in our best interest in protecting our State Society, while encouraging others to tie into our official website, to specify this unique website as it relates to Texas Mayflower Descendants?

Report Provided by Charles R. Prince - Webmaster



March 14, 2015
Central Texas Colony
Society of Mayflower Descendents in the State of Texas

It is my honor to submit this report on the 2014 activities of the Central Texas Colony of the Society of Mayflower Descendents in the State of Texas. This year the Colony's initiatives focused on 1) enjoying the fellowship and education of members and guest at both our Spring Luncheon and Compact Day Luncheon, and 2) providing educational resources to Central Texas young adults, schools, public libraries, and young adults.

The Central Texas Colony held its 2014 **Spring Luncheon** on May 3rd at the Hilton Garden Inn and Suites Hotel-NW/Arboretum in Austin. The luncheon was well attended. We enjoyed Mr. Mike Nichols' presentation "Myths and Legends of the Mayflower".

Our 2014 **Compact Day Luncheon** was held on November 1st, also at the Hilton Garden Inn and Suites Hotel, in Austin. This luncheon was well attended too. Direct from Pilgrim Hall Museum in Plymouth we presented the wonderful film, "One Small Candle". The film presents a stirring portrait of our Pilgrim ancestors and their trials and ordeals. Also, our own Mike and Pat Nichols presented a recap of their visit to the Triennial Meeting in Plymouth. It was very well received by everyone present and the Colony is grateful for their efforts.

This year the Colony's educational initiatives focused on 1) providing educational books to the children and grandchildren of Colony members, 2) providing educational books to Central Texas school and public libraries, 3) providing Central Texas school districts with information about the Society of Mayflower Descendents in the State of Texas' Scholarship Program, and 4) providing a \$500 cash donation to the Georgetown, TX public Library for the purchase of "silver books" to add to their collection..

The Central Texas Colony continued to distribute the remainder of over 40 of the award winning best seller Rush Revere and the Brave Pilgrims. The book is age appropriate for readers through middle school and high school. The books have been distributed to young readers related to Colony members. The Central Texas Colony is also distributing the books to Central Texas middle school libraries and public libraries in Central Texas.

The Colony also distributed three and a half cases of the Mayflower Descendants in the State of Texas and Their Lineages, Volume IV the "Red Books, to various genealogy research groups in the area.

The Central Texas Colony worked with Superintendants of public school districts in Central Texas to provide information about the State Scholarship Program. Catherine Caprio, a high school senior who attends our Colony meetings, was awarded the Texas Mayflower Scholarship this year. Catherine is a senior at McNeil High School in Round Rock. She has been accepted into the Honors Program at Texas A&M this Fall, and plans to study veterinary medicine.

The Colony also provided a \$500 cash donation to the Georgetown, TX public Library for the purchase of "silver books" to add to their collection. The Georgetown Library has a very credible genealogy resource room serving communities such as Sun City and the entire area. The library staff was very appreciative of the donation.

The Central Texas Colony looks forward to our upcoming 2015 fellowship and educational efforts.

Warmest Regards,

Dwight C. Benson

Dwight C. Benson
SoMDSTX
Central Texas Colony Governor

Corpus Christi Colony
End of Year Report 2014

The Corpus Christi Colony had a productive year. An April Meeting included lunch and a program titled, "Great Tales From the History of South Texas." by author, Jim Moloney. The Compact Day Luncheon included guests, Pat and Mike Nichols. Mike was our speaker with a program, "Mayflower Myths and Legends". Education programs blossomed this year as we were invited into both public and private schools to present programs for Kindergarten through Fifth grades. A presentation was given to the James Brewer, Colonial Dames of the 17th Century. This program was presented in two parts - the history of the pilgrims, their life in Leiden and the disbandment of the Speedwell to the final sailing of the Mayflower. The second part continued the story focusing on the women of the Mayflower. This program was covered in an article in the Victoria Advocate Newspaper. The Colony participated in a genealogical workshop held in Victoria on Oct. 22, 2014. We have three new members, two prospective members working with Historians and six prospective members working on their lines. Nationally, Corpus Christi entered the 2014 Public Relations Committee Contest and Marion Halvorson placed 5th in the 2020 Logo Contest.

Respectfully submitted,

Judie Allen, Governor
Corpus Christi Colony

Dallas-Fort Worth Colony Governor's Report
TX SOMD Annual Meeting
March 17, 2015

It has been another great year for our colony. In March 28-29, 2014, we hosted a successful Annual Meeting in Arlington, TX. It was well attended and we were able to stay within the allocated budget. We had a surplus of \$189.99 which was to be refunded back to the state.

On May 17, 2014, we honored our very first scholarship recipient, Erin Davis. We met at the Oakmont Country Club in Corinth, Texas. Erin read her winning essay to colony members. This special occasion was captured in our colony newsletter, *DFW Mayflower Family*, editor Doug Nicol.

In September 5-10, Prarie Counce, Linda Hill, Kerry Hill and I attended the 40th General Congress in Plymouth. As delegates we voted on a new slate of officers. This was my third Triennial.

The Compact Day luncheon was held November 15, 2014 at Texas Star Conference Center in Euleess. Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck, was our speaker and his topic was on genealogy. He also covered relevant history such as the importance of cod to the Pilgrims. Something new to many of us. We had 86 members and guests attend. Included in that number were 12 new members to the colony. Susie Ashbaugh, Education Co-Chair gave a report on the activities of the Education Committee. Over 1,650 students have seen the story of the Pilgrims this past year, given by the various members of this committee. In addition, library and school displays were implemented throughout the metroplex during the month of November. A nominating committee was selected.

On May 16, 2015, the Spring Meeting will be potluck and held at the home of Scholarship Chair, Jean de Schweinitz. The 2015-2017 Board will be installed by Ron Moranville, former Colony Governor, and Texas State Treasurer. The report of the nominating committee is as follows; Prarie Counce, Governor; Hallie Garner, Deputy Governor; Marilyn Funderburk, Recording Secretary; Susan See, Corresponding Secretary, Jeanne Harris, Treasurer; Patti Necessary, Historian; Kent Hopkins, Elder; John McWilliams IV, Captain; Laurie Behn, BOA Rep; Surgeon and Counselor positions retired.

Appointed Education Co-Chairs, Susie Ashbaugh and Carol Burnaman, Newsletter Editor, Doug Nicol.

It has been a memorable two years as Governor of the Dallas - Fort Worth Colony.

Laurie Gray Behn
DFW Colony Governor, Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants

Houston Colony Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants Governor's Report 2014-2015

Houston Colony is a beehive of activity. Beginning with the May meeting of 2014, Governor Lisa Pennington awarded the first Houston Colony Scholarship to Dominica Nieto, the daughter of Colony member Pam Nieto. The installation of new officers and a Board Meeting netted several new Committees.

With the Scholarship Committee, the Houston colony needed to find the Juniors who might qualify for the Scholarship. This was a problem. The Junior Committee grew out of that.

The new Governor, Leah Davis, has a focus on youth, not only of the Community but of our own children as well. The Junior Committee, headed by Peggy Marsh was approved by the Board and the Juniors buzzed off. They have been assistants for the meetings and have taken an outing to the Museum to see the Shark exhibit. They have two Newsletters the "November 11" and in the Spring "Cousins". They have their own T-shirts that show they are Houston Colony Juniors and they are making new friends and enjoying the Cousins. Peggy Marsh has worked over and above the call of duty and we are so proud of her and what she has done with the youngsters.

Another major highlight of our Colony is Education, this year we had something new---a Church! The Minister of one of the Churches asked about the various things we do and wanted to pass out the 5 Kernels of corn to the Congregation and do a sermon on the 5 Kernels. We are not only in the schools but also in the Churches. We made over 300 packets of 5 Kernels of corn and a message.

The Thanksgiving Compact Luncheon was held at the Brae Burn Country Club and was attended by 110 members and guests, with many youngsters attending! At our meetings we have a smaller luncheon for the younger folks at a reduced price. Parents can now take the children without spending a total fortune. This has been well received. Always popular, Christopher Hammons PhD, of HBU, was our excellent speaker.

A Membership Chairman has been appointed, that being Sandra Sauers, who contacts our new members, lets them know the next meeting, and generally welcomes them to join our Colony. This has been quite successful. Sandy has done an excellent job.

The Houston Colony felt the need to purchase the audio equipment rather than spending money renting equipment at each meeting, it has already paid for itself. On the Audio Visual Committee are Charles Prince and John Hunter Jr., a new member!

Hosting the 2015 State Meeting has been the prime concern of the Board, and a planning committee has been very active. Having, basically the same wonderful group we had in 2010, everyone has done their job and it has gone smoothly. We are all looking forward to seeing our State friends at the end of March.

We have had an active year and have been blessed with some talented and vibrant new members who fit in well with our happy and vibrant Houston Colony.

Leah Davis, Governor

Report of the Governor
San Antonio Colony SOMD

The San Antonio Colony met four times during Society year 2014-15 for colony luncheons, business meetings and presentations to the membership.

The meeting venue on each occasion was the delightful Los Patios collection of restaurants and boutiques located along the Salado Creek greenbelt in northeast San Antonio. We have had an outstanding partnership with Los Patios and attendance has averaged about 40 members and guests at each gathering.

Drawing upon the experiences of our own membership, presentation themes have ranged from the importance of wood as a life-sustaining influence to the early pilgrims; to the history of quilt-making as a common bond in a family divided by the American Civil War; to how the U.S. Constitution draws many parallels to the Iroquois Nation's Great Law of Peace.

For our Compact Day observance, the San Antonio Colony welcomed Dr. Tim Summerlin, President of Schreiner University in Kerrville, who spoke of life in the days of the early Plimouth Plantation.

The colony finished the year with a financial balance in the black and many new and prospective members attending our quarterly get-togethers. The colony will conclude its current administrative biennium in May with a trip to the Briscoe Western Art Museum on the San Antonio River followed by lunch at the adjacent Casa Rio Restaurant in downtown San Antonio.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael B. Byrne
Governor
San Antonio Colony SOMD

Annual Report from Waco Colony TSOMD

March 6, 2015

The Waco Colony met for their November Compact meeting on November 15, 2014 at the home of the Colony Governor, Ann Harder. After lunch we heard from Baylor Religion professor Dr. Barry Hankins. His entertaining and informative talk was centered around his research and recent book: Religion in the Roaring 20's: Jesus and Gin.



Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Harder

West Texas Colony Report 2014-2015

During 2014 - 2015 the West Texas Colony has participated in several programs and sent representatives to attend State Society and General Society events. The Colony Governor was elected to the General Society Executive Committee as Member at Large during the 2014 Congress.

Our Spring meeting was held in Midland in April at Michael's Grill, our fall Compact Day/Thanksgiving Feast/Meeting was held in November 2014 at Green Tree Country Club. Our next meeting/elections is scheduled of April 18, 2015 at the Green Tree Country Club in Midland.

We participated in the Juniors and Education programs by reading to classes at Rusk Elementary and Grace Lutheran ECP. We also distributed coloring books and "Coming to America" materials to the teaching staff.

We continue to seek ways to bring our membership together despite the vast geographical distances that exist in West Texas.

Richard Denham

Colony Governor
West Texas Colony of Mayflower Descendants

General Society of Mayflower Descendants,
Executive Committee, Member at Large.
memberatlarge3@themayflowersociety.org

Chair, GSMD Public Relations Committee

Report to the Texas Society BOA of the 40th Mayflower Society General Congress, September 7-9, 2014.

Texas was very well represented at the 40th Mayflower Society General Congress in Plymouth. Our delegation was headed by our Deputy Governor General Bart Henson, and included Acting Assistant General Mike Nichols, other delegates Rick Denham, Pat Nichols, Judie Allen, Charles Prince, Leah Davis, Laurie Behn, Prairie Counce, Lisa Pennington, and Sherryl Schilling. Assistant Secretary General Linda Hill was also actively engaged in supporting the Congress. Texas members Nancy Powers and Barbara Cobb also attended as did many of the spouses of the delegates.

A meeting of the General Board of Assistants (GBOA) was held Sunday Afternoon, September 7, during which the roll of Deputy Governor Generals and Assistant General was called, and those present were officially seated as Officers of the General Society for the GBOA meeting and the following Congress. The GBOA meets annually to conduct the business of the Society during the years between the triennial General Congress meetings. The next two GBOA meetings will be hosted by the Connecticut Society in 2015 and the Indiana Society in 2016. GBOA will return to Plymouth in 2017. The Illinois Society presented a motion to host the 2018 GBOA meeting in the Chicago area and that motion was accepted.

The Call to Assemble for the General Congress was issued by Assistant Governor General Lea Filson at 9:00am on Monday, September 8. Attending the General Congress were 100 Officers (including the Deputy Governor Generals and the Assistant Generals), 191 Delegates, 50 Members, and 138 Guests, for a total of 479 attendees (Numbers updated to her final report).

The reports of the General Society Officers, Executive Director and Director of Genealogy and Research were given, followed by an overview presentation of the newly adopted Strategic Plan. A review of the Approved 2014-2015 Budget was given and several State Societies were recognized for their membership growth.

Highlights of the Officer and Executive Director Reports

- A new Executive Director was added in the spring of 2013 to manage the Plymouth affairs
- A surplus in the financial operations of \$980,000 for the fiscal year ended June 2014 due partly to a large donation from a lady from New York of \$1.95M. Invested assets were \$8.4M.
- Historian General Paul Bumpas has left his position and moved to California. Margaret Roberts (Marti) has taken his place as the day to day Director of Genealogy
- The Elder General asked that state societies, when notifying him of the death of an officer, to include a family name and address and state activities so that he can send a note of condolence.
- All Officer Reports will be published in the Mayflower Quarterly
- Major staff changes have been made in the Plymouth Historian staff
- The Exec. Director is actively working with the Plymouth community including prep for 2020.

Governor General Bruce MacGunnigle then moved directly into the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws.

There were 28 Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws. Amendments 1-18 dealt with which General Officers are members of the Executive Committee and assigning responsibilities to the members of the Executive Committee. There were some minor wording changes and all were approved. Amendments 19 thru 26 dealt with the Agenda for the General Congress, the use of Robert's Rules of Order for meetings, the composition of the General Board of Assistants, filling the vacancy of a General

Officer, Executive Committee meetings, Electronic Voting by the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee procedures and the appointment of Standing and Special Committees of the General Society. All of them were approved. These first 26 Amendments were all dealt with by the end of business on Monday, the first day of the General Congress.

The Tuesday, September 9, the meeting started with the remaining two proposed amendments. Amendment 27 was a proposed series of increases in the annual amount each State Society is assessed for each member. The original proposed amendment called for an increase from the current annual assessment of \$11 per member to \$15, effective 2016, then an additional \$1 per year increase per member for five years, resulting in a final annual assessment of \$20 per member. The annual assessment for Life members was to be capped at \$15. Texas Deputy Governor General Bart Henson moved to amend the amendment to eliminate the additional \$1 increases. That amendment passed, and the modified proposal was approved, raising the annual assessment amount to \$15, effective 2016, with no additional increases planned at this time. The annual assessment for Life members is also subject to this increase, but is now capped at a maximum of \$15.

Amendment 28 was a proposal requiring the State Societies to pay the current \$75 fee for each new or supplemental application at the time the application is submitted to Plymouth instead of the current practice of the General Society billing the State Society once a year for all applications submitted. This amendment passed despite an attempt by the Texas delegation to switch the billing to quarterly

The proposed amendments having been dealt with, the meeting then turned to the reports of Committee Chairmen and State Societies. Most of these reports were reported as having been filed, and very few reports were actually read.

Committee Reports were next with the following highlights:

- A number of awards to individuals doing significant work in their state organizations included our own Mike Nichols
- Our national scholarship award to a student was to a New Jersey student to attend Harvard. 2nd and 3rd place awards to students from Virginia and Florida were also awarded.
- The 2020 logo has been picked and highlights the number 400 (1620-2020)
- Despite some Massachusetts government resistance, some progress is being made on the Coles Hill anthropological project
- A new membership tri-fold brochure has been developed for use by the states
- The Silver Book project is moving again

The final major business item of the 40th General Congress was the election of GSMD officers for the 2014-2017 triennium. The nominees for Deputy Governor General and Assistant General from the various State Societies were elected to their respective offices. Mike Nichols was elected Deputy Governor General for Texas and Rick Denham was elected Assistant General for Texas.

The following members were elected as the General Officers of the Society:

Governor General	Lea Sinclair Filson of the Louisiana Society
Assistant Governor General	George P. Garmany Jr. M.D. of the Colorado Society
Secretary General	Susan E. Roser of the Canadian Society
Treasurer General	Donald T. Studley of the Connecticut Society

Historian General	Marjorie K. Hurtuk of the Connecticut Society
Captain General	Reynolds (Ren) P. Cushing of the Florida Society
Elder General	Kenneth R. Whittemore Jr. of the California and D.C. Society
Counselor General	Richard S. Gilmore, Esq. of the Massachusetts Society
Surgeon General	Naomi Schulz Mann M.D. of the Louisiana Society.

The floor was then opened for the nomination of members to be elected as the three Executive Committee Members at large. After four ballots the following members were elected as the Executive Committee Members at Large:

Virginia A Mucciaccio of the Massachusetts Society
Steve Arnold of the Washington Society
Rick Denham of the Texas Society.

Lea Filson, the new Governor General gave her priorities for the next three years as:

- Strengthening the Historian office and issue Silver Books
- Improve training by adding an annual day of training to the GBOA Meetings
- Add State Governors and state Historians to the call-in meetings
- Bring the Mayflower house up to code
- Improving the grants/donor/annual appeal program
- Encouraging General Society members-at-large to seek state input
- Redesign the MFQ and add web features like a Governor General blog
- Initiate a Governor General 1620 Club (membership by giving \$1,620) and inviting all members to join.

The business of the General Society being completed, the General Congress was adjourned.

Mike Nichols and Bart Henson
Deputy Governors General for Texas