

Howdy Pilgrim



T E X A S S O C I E T Y O F M A Y F L O W E R D E S C E N D A N T S

Message From the Governor



At the state meeting in Austin, I had the honor and privilege of being installed as your new Texas Society governor. My special thanks to the Central Texas Colony for their support and nomination. Over the past ten years I have made so many friends in our Mayflower family and I hope to make many more in the coming two years. I look forward to serving you.

I am also privileged to follow a long line of Texans who have led our Society. My special ‘Thank You’ to Rick Denham, who represented us not only as Governor, but also as a member of the General Society Executive Committee. Thank you to those who served as officers and on committees the past two years.

Our 2017 Annual Meeting in Austin was very enjoyable. Thank you to the Central Texas Colony for hosting a great meeting. The meeting streamlined the business part and emphasized education and fellowship. Our Governor General, Lea Filson, joined us and brought us up to date on what is happening with the General Society. It is always a pleasure to be with Lea. Elizabeth Heise delivered one of the best presentations many of us have seen about using DNA to identify lineage. She really rocks. Mike Byrne helped us understand how civil mis-behavior was punished in Pilgrim times. He kept us in ‘stocks’. Ali James, Curator of the Texas State Capital, gave us some very interesting insights about the history of our Capital building. She opened the locks. In case you are interested, the minutes and reports from the meeting are posted on our web site <http://texasmayflower.com>.

It was a pleasure to see so many members of our society. We had 61 members and guests at lunch and 70 members and guests at our banquet. I want to continue to improve the quality of our meetings, attract more members by offering informative sessions and give us more time to spend with each other.

The Mayflower Society General Congress is coming up this September. This is an important Congress, as we will decide and approve our plans for 2020. There is also a proposal to acquire the First Parish meeting house in Plymouth. Texas is entitled to at least 25 delegates, in addition to those who are officers of the General Society. If you are planning to attend, please let me know by July 1 so I can put you on the official list.

I plan to post articles and items of interest on our web site and notify our members about them using email. If you did not receive an email from me in May we do not have an email address on file for you. I realize that not everyone uses email, but, if you do use email, you might want to let Mike Byrne, our Corresponding Secretary know your email address. Email Mike at: corrsec@texasmayflower.com.

We share a unique, and distinctly American legacy. As I have visited several of you at Colony meetings, I have been talking about the relevance of the Mayflower story today. We have a great story to tell and we need to ‘Tell the Story’! My focus will be enabling us to get the story told.

2017-2019 Elected Officers

- Mike Nichols, Governor
- Dwight Benson, Deputy Governor
- Mike Byrne, Corres. Secretary
- Judie Allen, Recording Secretary
- Charles Prince, Treasurer
- Elizabeth Heise, Co-Historian
- Kimberly Florsheim, Co-Historian
- Betty Gosdin, Co- Historian
- Kelly Lindsey, Assistant Historian
- Bart Henson, Elder
- John McWilliams IV, Captain
- Lisa Pennington, Counsellor

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TXSOMD INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants held their meeting at the Doubletree Hotel in Austin, TX March 24-25, 2017, hosted by the Central Texas Colony. Governor General Lea Sinclair Filson installed the new Officers .

New Officers for 2017-2019 are:

Governor:	Mike Nichols
Deputy Governor:	Dwight Benson
Recording Secretary:	Judie Allen
Treasurer:	Charles Prince
Co-Historian:	Elizabeth Heise
Co-Historian:	Betty Gosdin
Co-Historian:	Kimberly Florsheim
Assistant Historian:	Kelly Lindsey
Elder:	Bart Henson
Captain:	John McWilliams, IV
Counselor:	Lisa Pennington
Surgeon:	
Parliamentarian:	Hallie Garner



Our guest speaker, Governor General Lea Sinclair Filson, spoke to the members about the upcoming changes that we will see at the September General Congress. "It will be an exciting time for members as we lead up to 2020". Governor General Lea Sinclair Filson encouraged all family societies to join in a partnership with GSMD, and listed the many benefits that will be upcoming for the member societies who join.

A presentation was given by Ali James, Curator of the Texas State Capital, who, along with a slideshow, provided our members with the history of the Capital building as it progressed throughout the years. Elizabeth Heise, Co-Historian for the TXSOMD, gave a presentation on how DNA is used to trace our lineage. Mike Byrne presented the members with the many ways the Pilgrims were reprimanded for their "misdeeds", as well as the definitions of what the deeds were. "Stocks" were not what you invested in during colonial days.



**Governor Mike Nichols, Leah Davis
and Deputy Governor Dwight Benson**

Leah Davis was recognized for her many past achievements to the Texas Mayflower Society and was awarded membership to the Governor General's 1620 Club for the year. Leah will also have a brick inscribed with her name, placed in the Octagon garden walkway, and was given a Certificate from the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants in appreciation for her past service and dedication to the Mayflower Society.



**Governor General
Lea Sinclair Filson
and Leah Davis**

Message from Leah -

To all my cousins and dear friends: "May I express my deep appreciation for the TXSOMD Award. I was most humbled to receive it. Love to all of you, Leah Davis"



CENTRAL TEXAS

The Central Texas Colony held its Spring Luncheon on Saturday, May 6th at the Hilton Garden Inn NW Arboretum in Austin. A very interesting presentation was given to the group by Mr. John Williams. John is an Austin based author, researcher and historian. The topic of his presentation was his new book published by the Texas A&M University Press, "The Untold Story of the Lower Colorado River Authority".

State Governor Mike Nichols presented a review of the very well received State Meeting in Austin this past March and recognized the Colony volunteers with award certificates and thanks for a job well done.

Also, Colony business included the installation of new Colony Officers by State Governor Mike Nichols.

New Officers for 2017-2019 are:

- Governor:** Kay Gregory
- Dep. Governor:** Barbara Alvarez
- Secretary:** Lynne Maddox
- Treasurer:** Pat Nichols
- Historian:** Laurie Walden
- Captain:** Beau Benson
- Elder:** Cynthia Russell
- BOA Rep:** Betty Prince



CORPUS CHRISTI

The Corpus Christi Colony met April 1, 2017 at the Yacht Club in Corpus Christi and installed the new slate of officers. The Corpus Christi Colony will meet again in November for the Compact Day Luncheon in Victoria, Texas.

New Officers for 2017-2019 are:

- Governor:** Jacqie Perabo
- Dep. Governor:** Charlie Bass
- Secretary:** Dora Ortego
- Treasurer:** Nancy Parker
- Elder:** Donna Fossett
- Counselor:** Dewitt Alsup
- BOA Rep:** Judie Allen



DFW

New Officers for 2017-2019 are:

- Governor:** Marilyn Funderburk
- Dep. Governor:** Jennifer Haskell
- Rec. Secretary:** John McWilliams, IV
- Corr. Secretary:** Carol Siddons
- Treasurer:** Barbara Cobb
- Captain:** Thad Wetterau
- Elder:** Steven Gray
- Historian:** Patti Necessary
- BOA Rep:** Prarie Counce



HOUSTON COLONY

The Houston Colony met on April 29, 2017 at Maggiano’s Little Italy Restaurant in Houston. Governor Mike Nichols, our Guest Speaker, gave a poignant speech titled “ Is our Mayflower Story Still Relevant Today”.

New Officers for 2017-2019 are:

- Governor:** Charles Prince
- Dep. Governor:** Nancy Keith
- Rec. Secretary:** Kelly Sharer
- Corr. Secretary:** TBD
- Treasurer:** Sandra Sauers
- Historian:** Sheryl Schilling
- Captain:** Bill Griffith
- Elder:** Don Stone
- BOA Rep:** Leah Davis



SAN ANTONIO

May 6, 2017 San Antonio Colony met at Los Patios Restaurant for their spring meeting. A very interesting program was given by Mike Cox on "Texas Disasters: True Stories of Tragedy and Survival". The installation of the new officers was conducted by Mrs. Peggy Jared, Past Governor of TXSOMD. San Antonio Colony will be honoring their out-going Governor Deborah Werner with a commemorative brick inscribed with her name, title and dates of the three terms as Colony Governor. The brick will be placed in the Octagon of the Garden Walkway Project at Plymouth.

New Officers for 2017-2019 are:

- Governor:** Barbara Warnock
- Rec. Secretary:** Ellen Hernandez
- Corr. Secretary:** Peggy Durack
- Treasurer:** Zach Wannarka
- Captain:** Mark Sullivan
- Elder:** Joe Cox
- Librarian:** Valerie Guenther
- Counselor:** Scott Cox
- Historian:** Mary Eck
- BOA Rep:** Mike Byrne



TYLER

The Spring Luncheon of the Tyler Colony was held at Traditions Restaurant, Saturday, May 20th. New officers were elected and installed by Governor Mike Nichols who then gave a presentation titled "Is the Mayflower Story Relevant today?" He impressed on us the necessity of sharing the Mayflower story now as we build forward to 2020. As usual our Education Chair, Kelly Lindsey, captivated us with "living history" of life inside a 20' x 20' Plimouth home in 1621.

New Officers for 2017-2019 are:

- Governor:** Dennis Alden
- Dep. Governor:** Paula Patterson
- Rec. Secretary:** Glen Alden
- Corr. Secretary:** Carolyn McCall
- Treasurer:** Glen Alden
- Captain:** Kevin McCall
- Elder:**
- Historian:** Betty Jean Couch
- BOA Rep:** James Walker



WACO

The Waco Colony held their Spring Meeting and Officers Installation on April 22, 2017 at Waco Library and Genealogy Center. Light refreshments were served and our Honored Guest, Texas Mayflower Society Gov. Mike Nichols gave his presentation "Is our Mayflower Story Still Relevant Today?" Our incoming officers for 2017-19 were installed by Governor Mike Nichols ,after which Colony Governor Dottie Tate lit a unity candle for the Colony quoting Gov. William Bradford "As one small candle may light a thousand", and challenged members present to "come again and bring friends".

New Officers for 2017-2019 are:

- Governor:** Dottie Tate
- Dep. Governor:** Barbara Lewandowski
- Secretary:** Ann Harder
- Treasurer:** Peter Kultgen
- Captain:** Belinda Summers
- Elder:** Judy Baker



WEST TEXAS

New Officers for 2017-2019 are:

- Governor:** Rick Denham
- Dep. Governor:** Louise Parmely
- Secretary:** Geri Lilly
- Treasurer:** Laine Miller
- Elder:** Doris Redfern
- Historian:** Joyce Moore



Texas Junior Challenge - 400 Ideas

Texas Juniors are being challenged to create simple ways to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of our Pilgrim ancestors to Plymouth. There is no limit to the number of ideas submitted and Junior's ideas selected will receive a 2020 pin; judging will be done our Texas Governor Mike Nichols and the Juniors will be notified by email.

Please email one of more of your ideas to: peggymarsh@comcast.net, and add 400 Ideas in the subject line of your emails. The 400 Ideas challenge will continue until the fall of 2020. Three siblings, Allison, Ashley and Jason Sharer, were the first Juniors to submit unique ideas. They submitted twenty-two ideas and former Texas Governor Rick Denham selected these winning ideas:

- Ashley:** Create a conversation with your neighbors by spelling out "400" in flowers in your garden.
- Allison:** Make and bury a time capsule to be opened on the 500th anniversary.
- Jason:** Host a walk/run for kids to raise money for Plimoth Plantation. Have children collect money for every 400 meter lap they run around the track.

Texas Junior Memberships

Please contact me for Texas Junior membership information: peggymarsh@comcast.net. If you are reading our Howdy Pilgrim newsletter online, you may click the links below:

- [Texas Junior Information](#)
- [Texas Junior Application](#)
- [Junior to Adult Preliminary Application](#)



2017 Scholarship Winners
 The 1st Place went to Jacob Hoyumpa (from San Antonio)
 The 2nd Place went to Riley Haralson (from Austin)



In Memoriam



Betty V. Glimp
 Paul Gervais Bell
 Mrs. Gene Helen Jackson
 Allen Sanders

July 15, 2016
 October 31, 2016
 November 19, 2016
 December 6, 2016

Constance Higgins Smith
 Janice Jenne Hill
 Kerry Acker
 Nellie Aileen Orrison Gunn

December 16, 2016
 January 26, 2017
 April 18, 2017
 April 23, 2017

William Brewster
 William Brewster, Edward Doty
 William Brewster
 George Soule, John Alden,
 William Mullins
 Stephen Hopkins, John Tilley
 Edward Doty
 John Howland, George Soule
 Edward Doty



We have a new Treasurer! Early payment is welcome.
Your 2018 Dues check, made out to SOMD Texas for \$30.00 can be mailed to:
Charles R. Prince - 14815 Mesa Vista Drive - Houston, Texas 77083

Welcome New Members

Name	Ancestor	Name	Ancestor
Kristin Fiacco Dow	John Tilley	Genevieve Crovo Gelles	William Bradford
Cynthia Ann Prewitt Vaughan	John Howland	Patricia Ernst	John Alden
Debra L. Robinson	John Alden	Elisa Cordua Tavera	William Brewster
Darlene E. Cary	George Soule	Meghan McCarthy	Francis Cook
Madelyn C. Abercrombie	Edward Fuller	Mary Anna Hanson	Edward Fuller
Mary Gwyn Hinshaw Darelus	William Brewster	Amy Moneyhon Ledbetter	Stephen Hopkins
Carolyn Faye Hamilton	William Bradford	Ginger Gurs Francis	Giles Hopkins
Rollo Roy Gurs	Giles Hopkins	Mae Elizabeth Wannarka	William Brewster
Jane Ellen White Myers	John Howland	Susan Waring Prideaux	Stephen Hopkins
Alisone Margaret Rochester			
Kopita	Degory Priest	Crystal Anne Devine	Edward Fuller
Joan Elizabeth Baylor Mathieu	John Alden	Mark Allen Sullivan	Richard Warren
Kristopher Andrew Tong	Stephen Hopkins	Susan Kristina Byram Campbell	John Alden
Lee Robert Wilson	Stephen Hopkins	Staci Wyman	John Alden
Jonathan Ross Strong	Edward Fuller	James Tyree Strong	Edward Fuller
Luther Hugh Soules, IV	George Soule	Jennifer Desmond Walters	John Howland
Sandra Lou Maston Poore	William Bradford		
New Members by Transfer:			
Frances Lee Revere	William Brewster		
Cristi Hicks	William Bradford		
James Bruce Battles	James Chilton		
(dual w/ MD 610)			
Patricia Ann Millard Studey	John Howland		
New Life Member, Life Certificates Sent:			
Linda Nairn			
Janet Kres			
Supplementals:			
Sheryl Kay Sauers Schilling	William Mullins	Peggy Jean Griffin Johnson	John Alden
John Kelly Hardin	William Mullins	Peggy Jean Griffin Johnson	William Mullin
Catherine Cooper Wilson	Samuel Fuller	Peggy Jean Griffin Johnson	Priscilla Mullins (Alden)
Lawren Lydian Hall	William Brewster	Gary Moore Chapel	Richard Warren
Kimberly Ann Edge	William Brewster	Cynthia Kay Chandler	William Mullins
Vickie Jo Swanstrom Barry	William Bradford		
New Junior Members:			
Patricia Ann Revere	William Brewster	Sponsor: Frances Lee Revere	
Luke Michael Revere	William Brewster	Sponsor: Frances Lee Revere	
Isabel Lee Revere	William Brewster	Sponsor: Frances Lee Revere	
Reilly Root McWilliams	William Brewster	Sponsor: John Lawrence McWilliams IV	
Chevalier Rice McWilliams	William Brewster	Sponsor: John Lawrence McWilliams IV	
John Kernan McWilliams	William Brewster	Sponsor: John Lawrence McWilliams IV	
Peter William Ferris Evans	Francis Cooke	Sponsor: Michael A. Evans	
Thompson Daniel Ferris Evans	Francis Cooke	Sponsor: Michael A. Evans	
Jacob David Ferris Evans	Francis Cooke	Sponsor: Michael A. Evans	
Emily Prager Florsheim	John Howland	Sponsor: Kimberly Florsheim	
Helen Reid Crawford	Francis Cooke	Sponsor: Gretchen Crawford	
Emerson Ledbetter	Stephen Hopkins	Sponsor: Amy Ledbetter	
Sloane Ledbetter	Stephen Hopkins	Sponsor: Amy Ledbetter	
Scott Rian Cary	George Soule	Sponsor: Darlene Cary	
Evelin Janet Cary	George Soule	Sponsor: Darlene Cary	
Connor James Baxter	Stephen Hopkins	Sponsor: John B. Baxter	

**Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the State of Texas**

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8522 Pool Creek Drive
Houston, TX 77095-3648

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Change Service Requested

The 41st Mayflower General Congress will take place at Hotel 1620 Plymouth Harbor, 180 Water Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts, September 8-13, 2017. The business meetings of Congress cover two days, Monday and Tuesday, September 11 and 12, 2017. Registering for Congress can be done in two ways: online or by mail. We encourage members to register for Congress online. It is quick, easy and confirmations are sent out immediately. If members prefer to mail the form, the pink Registration form for General Congress can be found in the Spring 2017 issue of the Mayflower Quarterly Magazine and will not appear in future issues.

