



Pilgrim News

Fall 2021

Virtual Fall Meeting November 20th

Due to continued uncertainty about in-person gatherings and to keep our members safe, this year's Fall Meeting will be conducted on Zoom, on **Saturday, Nov. 20, from 10:00 am to 10:45 am.**

There are three ways to join the meeting, using the Zoom app on a computer, tablet, or smart phone, using a web browser with the link below, or by calling a phone number.

- 1) For the app, open the Zoom app and enter Meeting ID: 882 9896 2621 and then (if prompted) Password: 830046
- 2) For the web browser, click on the link below or paste it into the web browser <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88298962621?pwd=Z0J6SzFmbis5SWg0bzRkd1M5NVZ2dz09> or
- 3) call (346) 248-7799, enter 88298962621# (including the #), then (if prompted) 830046#.

Spring 2022 Meeting on Sunday May 1st

To accommodate our honored guest, Governor General Jane Hurt, our Spring Meeting, in Omaha, will be Sunday, May 1. We will hold our Silent Auction Fundraiser at this meeting. Please note this change in our usual timing!

Governor's Greetings

Dear Cousins,

Reluctantly, I contacted Hillcrest Country Club and asked them to take us off their books for an in-person meeting this November. They kindly moved the meeting to November 2022. God willing, we will share each other's company face-to-face at the Spring 2022 meeting. We have the honor of hosting Governor General Jane Hurt on May 1 so I hope as many of you as possible can attend!

Speaking of gathering, what fun our Nebraska delegation had at the annual meeting of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants! I don't recall this large of a group and it's really true that "the more the merrier!" Thanks to our voting delegates Gretchen Harvey and Marty Beerman and their spouses Bill and Jane, meeting photographer extraordinaire John Keller and his wife, Kit, and Cheryl Clark, who also was my roomie at the Hotel 1620! While in Plymouth, we were inspired by the refurbished Mayflower II (imagine more than 100 people plus livestock in such cramped quarters) and we progressed, dressed in 1620s attire, into the Meetinghouse. As one speaker noted, it was 400 years ago that our brave ancestors gathered in the same way in the same location. Awe inspiring! Also in Plymouth, we attended the dedication of the William Bradford sculpture that is our collective gift to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the landing. While there we spotted the historian brick (thank you donors!) that marks the many years of historian service given by Marty Beerman.

All members are welcome to attend these meetings so please think about joining us in the future! In the meantime, please join our November 20th meeting from the comfort of your home. I'll look forward to seeing you all then – virtually! Appreciation to Deputy Governor John Keller's technical prowess for making that happen!

Best wishes,

Kathryn Morrissey, Governor

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Spring 2021 Minutes

Meeting Held at 2:00pm on Sunday, April 25, 2021

Governor Kathryn Morrissey called the meeting to order.

Deputy Governor John Keller gave some information about joining the meeting on Zoom.

Elder Ann Reinert gave the invocation.

Captain Steve Hunt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Governor Morrissey introduced the new members and those with pending membership.

Historian Marty Beerman introduced the 2021 Burt and Becky Whedon Memorial Scholarship winner, Sierra Bryant, from Norris High School in Firth, Nebraska. Sierra was chosen from 20 applicants. She plans to attend Wayne State in the fall and is planning a career in the health care field. The scholarship, which is \$1,620.00, is funded from donations and the silent auction held at the November meeting.

The November 21, 2021 Annual meeting will be held at the Hillcrest Country Club in Lincoln Nebraska. The Silent Auction will be held at that meeting. Donations to the Silent Auction are needed. [Note that plans have changed to a virtual meeting for Fall 2021; see front page.]

Governor Kathryn Morrissey led a discussion pertaining to the club's finances and a new investment strategy. The GSMD in Plymouth significantly raised new member fees this year, which doubled our cost for annual Member Assessment, Life Member Assessment and the new member processing cost. Last year the Nebraska Society paid the GSMD \$4,155.00 in dues. This year the amount rose to \$8,505.00. Our membership numbers were about the same from the last year.

Life Members are not assessed yearly dues. Life Membership is paid at the beginning of the membership in one lump sum. The money is invested, and the funds are taken from the investment to pay national dues. The Nebraska Society continues to pay dues for Life Members out of our funds. We have raised the yearly dues for our members who pay annually, and have reached out to Life Members to make a donation to help offset some of the rising costs.

We currently have a total balance of \$29,198.24 in the Nebraska Society treasury. There are investment strategies that are better than our current CD and offer low administrative fees and a higher interest rate, although they are not a guaranteed investment. The Officers and Board of Assistants have looked into a Vanguard Fund called Vanguard Balanced Index Admiral Shares (VBIAX) that will earn greater interest (an average of 10% over the last 10 years and 6.89% since inception) than a CD (currently at less than 1%).

Gretchen Harvey moved that our money be invested in Vanguard Funds VBIAX Investments. Cheryl Clark seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

New Business

Captain Steve Hunt informed the club that tee shirts are available for Mayflower descendents. Rob Laughlin thanked the officers for their work on the finances and for sharing the need for necessary changes.

Elder Ann Reinert gave the Benediction.

Governor Morrissey adjourned the meeting.

2021 Directory of Officers

Governor | Kathryn Morrissey
(402) 670-3836 or kathryn@cwsomaha.com

Deputy Governor | John Keller
(402) 450-3781 or jfk120@me.com

Secretary | Bonnie Kolowski
(402) 896-1765 or bkolowski@Hotmail.com

Treasurer | Robert Harvey
(402) 679-8232 or rharvey@gmail.com

Historian | Marty Beerman
(402) 709-3786 or mwbeerman@cox.net

Elder | Ann Reinert
(402) 483-1590 or mar68434@gmail.com

Counselor | Robert Laughlin
(402) 397-0868 or rallaw@radiks.net

Captain | Steve Hunt
(531) 203-9229 or neandoz@me.com

Surgeon | Audrey Paulman, M.D.
(402) 551-22184 or apaulman@me.com

Board of Assistants

Stephanie Donsig (2021)
(402) 326-5504 or sdonsig23@gmail.com

Judith Moore (2021)
(402) 269-3480 or faysyracuse@outlook.com

Verla Ringenberg (2021)
(402) 202-8858 or vringenberg@gmail.com

John Reinert (2022)
(402) 432-9168 or jr6@aol.com

Fran Ruh (2022)
(402) 334-7037 or mkangaruh@mac.com

Cheryl Clark (2023)
(308) 325-3849 or cherlyclark@q.com

Cindy Rademacher (2023)
(308) 627-9389 or clic1970@yahoo.com

Marty Beerman (Past Governor)
(402) 709-3786 or mwbeerman@cox.net

General Society Officers

Deputy Governor General | Gretchen Harvey

Assistant Governor General | Marty Beerman

Chairs

Education | Kathryn Morrissey, Omaha

Junior Members | Cindy Rademacher, Kearney

Membership | Marty Beerman, Omaha

Photographer | John Keller, Lincoln

Pilgrim News Editor | Stephanie Donsig, Lincoln

Public Relations | Thomas Masters, Lincoln

Webmaster | Marty Beerman, Omaha

Scholarship | Gretchen Harvey & Marty Beerman, Omaha

Scholarship Auction | Cheryl Clark, Elwood

Welcome New Members!

Name	Number	Residence	Pilgrim Ancestor
Tyler Brian Robinson	99834-1188	North Platte	John Alden
Jennifer Ann Robinson	99835-1189	North Platte	John Alden
Bradley Martin Robinson	99836-1190	North Platte	John Alden
Colby Glenn Robinson	99837-1191	North Platte	John Alden
Karen Yvonne (Ross) Standley	100073-1192	Lincoln	William White
Jesse Newman Harding	100115-1193	Omaha	Mary Chilton
Nathan Otto Dexter	100488-1194	Scottsbluff	Francis Cooke
Elizabeth Ann (Nielsen) Gleason	100568-1195	Sutherland	Myles Standish
Kelley Marie Bode	100652-1196	Burwell	Myles Standish
Levi Wyatt Bode	100653-1197	Burwell	Myles Standish
Dennis Emery Clare	100712-1198	Lincoln	George Soule
Daniel Joseph Clare	100713-1199	Foster, KY	George Soule
Phyllis Joanne (Howland) Cook	100714-1200	Hastings	John Howland

Supplemental Application Approved

The Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants congratulates **Karen Yvonne (Ross) Standley** of Lincoln, a descendant of Pilgrim William White, on the approval of a supplemental application for Pilgrim **George Soule**.

Applicants waiting for final approval

Name	Residence
John Charles Weaver	Santa Barbara, CA
Peggy Ann (Kline) Miller	Aurora, CO
Christine Ann (Curley) Finson	Waverly
Patricia Harriett (Cox) Crews	Lincoln
Patricia Ann (Agler) Abels	North Platte
Lorene Rae (Cass) Cooper	Waldorf, MD

SAVE THESE DATES!

Spring 2022 Meeting

The Spring 2021 Meeting is scheduled for Sunday May 1st. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Fall 2022 Meeting

The Fall 2022 Meeting is scheduled for November 21, the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Membership Report

Our current membership is 284. Since January 1, we have gained 18 new members, and lost 3: 2 deaths, and 1 resignation. We have 5 applications in Plymouth awaiting approval.

Martin Beerman, Historian

Board of Assistants Meeting In Plymouth, 2021

This fall, we had a fantastic Board of Assistants meeting in Plymouth! What made this meeting so special was the fact that we had the highest number of Pilgrims attending from Nebraska than we have ever had: Kathryn Morrissey, Marty Beerman, and his wife Honorary Pilgrim Jane, John Keller and his wife Honorary Pilgrim Kit, Cheryl Clark, and Honorary Pilgrim Bill and I arrived in Plymouth during the week of September 6. John Keller had the honor of being the official photographer for the General Society, and he did a great job. Some of his beautiful photos are included in this newsletter; for more, see <https://photographybykeller.pixieset.com/gsm-d-2021gboameeting-plymouth/>. During the week, John, Kit, and Bill and I made a side trip to Quincy, Massachusetts to see the home of John Adams. John and Kit also traveled to Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts to visit the Orchard House.

The highlight for our group was when we all dressed in our Pilgrim attire to march in the Pilgrim Progress from the Mayflower Society House to a ceremony at the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse where we were able to see all the beautiful work that has been done to renovate this historical building. Restoration to the exterior of the building is complete and the scheduling of the interior of the building is in progress. All of us were able to attend the Thanksgiving Banquet at Plymouth Patuxet which needed to be scheduled for an additional night due to the large number of people attending. At the Banquet, we were treated to yummy food that our Pilgrim ancestors would have enjoyed.

At the Board of Assistants meeting, the Governor General did a terrific job of heading up the meeting. Jane will be traveling to Omaha to attend our meeting next spring as our speaker and will have lots of news for us about what is happening in the General Society. During the meeting, Marty Beerman was recognized for his work on the committee to design and develop the new Mayflower website – this committee worked long hours to get this done, making it much easier to engage and educate our members. For example, one of the new features includes a profile of each of the 26 Mayflower Passenger families, and info about the Women and Children of the Mayflower. Mark Schmidt will be our new Executive Director for the General Society.

Next year, the General Board of Assistants Meeting will take place in Bloomington, Minnesota, and I am hopeful that we will also have many Pilgrims from Nebraska attending this meeting. If you think you might be interested in joining us, please get in touch with me and I will be happy to give you some more information.

Gretchen Harvey
Deputy Governor General



NSMD Attendees with Governor General Hunt



Start of the Board Of Assistants Meeting



Pilgrims gathering for Pilgrim Progress



Pilgrim Progress at Mayflower Society House

1st Photo courtesy Gretchen Harvey; Others courtesy John Keller

The Centenary of Our Charter will be in 2022

Our Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants received its charter from the General Society on December 16, 1922.

Do you have ideas for how we could commemorate this landmark date? Please submit them to Kathryn Morrissey by email: kathryn@cwsomaha.com

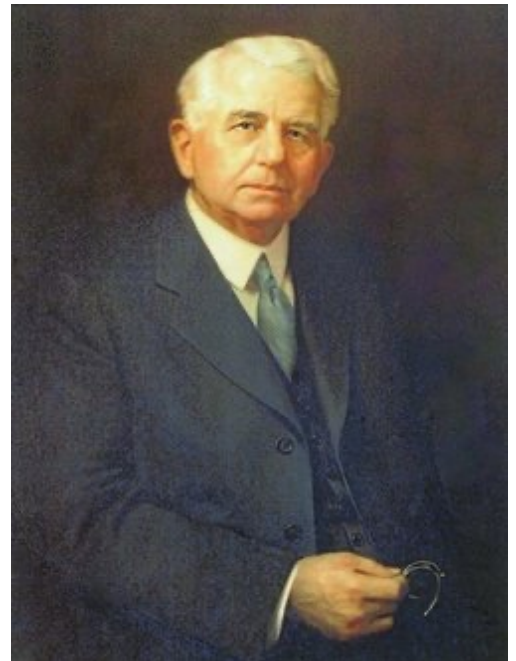
Charter Members

Here are our 24 Charter Members. Do you know them or something about their history? If you do, please write to Kathryn Morrissey. For example, May Belle (Bennett) Avery, 1870-1960, was the wife of Samuel Avery, Chancellor of the University of Nebraska from 1916 to 1928.

Carl Raymond Gray
Elizabeth Boyd (Brayton) Sarson
Maynard Copeland Cole
Daisy Viola (Shouf) Jones
Fannie Eliza (Colburn) Fernald
Mary Delia (Poppleton) Learned
Ellen Elizabeth (Poppleton) Shannon
Ethel Therese (Wead) Mick
Ada Jean (Pelton) Mecham
George Edward Turkington
Katherine (Hinman) Dickerman
Catherine Ann (Williams) Foley Moore
May Belle (Bennett) Avery
Mary Frances (Burris) Ingles
Anson Virgil Whiting
Adelloyd (Whiting) Williams
Alice Maude (Doty) Hollenbeck
Clara Andrea (Sibley) Paine
John Newton Bennett
Gertrude May (Berry) Snipes
Herman Stevens Delano
Winifred (Harlan) Beans
Edwin Darling Crites
Mary Caroline (Hayt) Crites

What Does 'Charter' Mean?

The General Board of Assistants of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants may, at any time, authorize the formation of a Society of Mayflower Descendants in any state or country not already having one. Twenty members in good standing must sign a request for a charter and file it with the Secretary General. This is what Mr. Carl Raymond Gray, Sr. did in 1922. He was member #1 in Nebraska (we are now over 1200) and #5384 nationally (now over 100,000). He served as our Society's first governor from 1923 until his death in 1939. Governor Gray was President of the Union Pacific Railroad and lived in Omaha. He advised Presidents Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt on the management of railroads.



We'll tell you more of our "creation story" in the Spring 2022 Pilgrim News. Are you related to one of our twenty four charter members? Do you know anything about those early years? If so, please contact Kathryn Morrissey by cell phone (402) 670-3836 or by email: kathryn@cwsomaha.com.

Winning Scholarship Essay for 2021, by Sierra Bryant

December 8, 1620
61 West Street
Dorking, England

To my dearest children, Sarah and William,

I indite to tell of the New World. To read, however, is not to behold its lurking creatures, weather its bitter winds, or tread its virgin ground. Though my body bears forty-eight years, as I crouch in my acquainted, cramped corner of our Mayflower, sheltered from the icy winds, floating on the waters that brought us here, and having been one to have set foot on the land of opportunity, I feel as a young stag once more. It is with this fresh spirit, as of youth, that I endeavor to write of our voyage, the New World, and, most surely, the experiences of myself and our family - lovely Alice, Priscilla, kid Joseph, and, humble servant, Robert Carter.

I write, foremost, to relay the suitable condition of our family. Regretfully, the same cannot be said for much of our company. This first winter in the New World has proven perilous and grim, more severe than all the winters in our home of Dorking. Cold and hunger hath stricken us greatly. I confess, we find ourselves gravely ill-prepared, lacking sufficient rations of raiment and meat, even for subsistence; our lack of settlement hath confined us to quarters of our vessel. Each day, more souls succumb to winter and pestilence, which plague us persistently. Two morns passed, Jasper More, a lad, none more than seven years of age, fell to sickness. His passing hath stricken Alice greatly with grief; she increases in her fear for Priscilla and Joseph. Were Jasper's expiry not sorrowful enough, we mourn also the loss of the wife of William Bradford. Upon yesterday's return to the Mayflower, we learnt fair Dorothy had slipped on the slick of the great ship's deck, fallen overboard, and drowned in the waters below. Following this passing, there is greater difficulty in leaving behind Alice and the children to partake in the explorations of the New World, and, indeed, the wind and biting cold hath rendered our endeavors ineffectual.

I am burdened greatly by the grief Alice suffers, and I, also, am plagued by bouts of worriedness and despair. For, after many unsuccessful vales due to the sorry estate of our sister ship, the Speedwell, Alice, Joseph, Priscilla, Robert, and I were confined to our damp corner for sixty-six days. Whilst tame waters accompanied the first thirty, terrible storms followed, battering our Mayflower for weeks. On one occasion, as angry waters emerged from the planks beneath our feet, my ears did perceive a terrible crack, and, from down in our dwelling, I felt the Mayflower shake mightily. I then beheld Alice, her dress soaked in sea water, drawing our children to herself, crying into the mat of Joseph's hair. Through many dark and solemn nights, Alice's fear on the night our ship's wooden beam fell victim to the storm of the



Sierra Bryant is the recipient of the sixth NSMD Burt & Becky Whedon Memorial Scholarship, chosen from 20 applicants. She is attending Wayne State College.

North Atlantic, remained in my mind. Each night, as Alice and the children slept, I petitioned our Lord, with great persistence, that he might deliver our ship to land.

After over two months at sea, land was sighted on November the Ninth. It was a day of great hope and promise. We landed, first, a distance North of our anticipated destination; several days of attempted voyage South, to the Colony of Virginia, proved the Mayflower no match for the strength of the winter sea, compelling us to anchor in the harbor of our arrival. Many aboard began to question whether they should abide by the Virginian charter, observing that there were none to command or govern them in this region. This affair concerned the Puritans, as well as myself and Mr. William Bradford, a scribe of a man, stained with ink from his thoroughgoing documentation of our Mayflower's journey to freedom.

In effort to hastily quell the forthcoming rebellion, we passengers convened to form, for ourselves, a code of laws. Manifest in our charter was a consensus that we remain loyal subjects to our King James, live according to the Christian faith, and act together for the establishment of our new settlement, honoring our newly founded compact. On the day of November the Eleventh of this year, sixteen-twenty, our laws were put to paper, and ratified by forty-one men, myself among them. Our set of ordinances is not merely an instrument of governance, but as a first sign of the hope and freedom to be gained in this New World. I am a God-fearing husband, father, and proud member of our new colony. To endeavor to describe the joy of my heart to behold my name, *Williams Mullins*, upon our compact would be but vanity.

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2022 Officers and Board of Assistants Nominations

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers, Board of Assistants members for 2022:

Governor: **Kathryn Morrissey**, Omaha
 Deputy Governor: **John Keller**, Lincoln
 Secretary: **Cindy Rademacher**, Kearney
 Treasurer: **Robert Harvey**, Omaha
 Historian: **Marty Beerman**, Omaha
 Elder: **Ann Reinert**, Lincoln
 Counselor: **Rob Laughlin**, Omaha
 Captain: **Steve Hunt**, LaVista
 Surgeon: **Audrey Paulman, M.D.**, Omaha

2022 Board of Assistants

John Reinert (2022), Lincoln
Fran Ruh (2022), Omaha
Cheryl Clark (2023), Elwood
Susan Rice (2023), Nehawka
Stephanie Donsig (2024), Lincoln
Judy Moore (2024), Syracuse
Verla Ringenberg (2024), Lincoln
Marty Beerman (Past Governor), Omaha

General Society Officers

Deputy Governor General:
Gretchen Harvey, Omaha
 Assistant General:
Marty Beerman, Omaha



Dues Reminder

All Annual Members who have not paid
 2021 dues by **Dec. 15**
 will be dropped from the Roll of
 Membership at the end of the year.
 Dues are \$45.

Two ways to pay:

- 1) Visit www.NebraskaMayflower.org and pay securely using Paypal or a credit card.
- 2) Send a check for \$25 payable to Nebraska Mayflower Society to
 Grechen Harvey, 17503 V St, Omaha, NE 68135.

If you have questions about your dues, contact
 Treasurer Bob Harvey at
nsmdtreasurer@gmail.com

2022 Dues Notices will be mailed soon.

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Despite our persistent explorations of the land, an appropriate settlement hath yet to be found. Bitter winter has forced retreat to the ship, where conditions worsen by the hour, and death hath taken many Alice, Robert, the children, and I, called friends. As our family gathers for warmth, we endure, constantly, the sound of coughing, wailing of ill children, and grumbling of appetite.

Perhaps in self-mindedness, with me I stowed boots and shoes of all varieties; absent the practice of my craft, I do yearn, once again, to be joined with the rich fragrance of leather and polish. With each passing sun, the brown leather dye that once resided in the crevices of my palms hath faded, 'til I can no more detect it. Alas, my spirit is strong.

My Sarah and William, it is among deathly ill passengers I sit, scribing by dim candlelight, unaware if this letter ever shall be graced by thine eyes. I mean not to inspire fear in thee, but in the instance I should fall to winter or sickness, I shall prepare a will, by which you each shall see a share of my estate. Forget not that I remember and pray for thee and hope this letter would, one day, find thee in right health and spirit.

Lovingly,

William Mullins

Treasurer's Report Bob Harvey

NSMD - Fall 2021 REPORT

CASH ON HAND, February 28, 2021			\$ 12,569.60
INCOME			
National Dues	43 @ 35	\$	1,505.00
State Dues	43 @ 10	\$	430.00
Application Fee (2020 & Earlier)	16 @ 25		
Application Fee	6 @ 150	\$	900.00
Supplemental Application Fees	10 @ 25	\$	250.00
Recovery of Underpayment of 2021 dues	5 @ 20	\$	100.00
General Donation		\$	1,005.00
Historian's Brick Donation		\$	200.00
Life Member Sustaining Donation		\$	920.00
Interest - Checking		\$	7.74
			\$ 5,317.74
DISBURSEMENTS			
Spring 2021 Newsletter Expenses		\$	217.43
Application Fees to GSMD		\$	875.00
Scholarship Disbursement		\$	1,620.00
Historian's Brick		\$	200.00
Certificate Fees		\$	72.94
PayPal Fees		\$	43.74
			\$ (3,029.11)
CASH ON HAND, September 30, 2021			\$ 14,858.23
OTHER ASSETS			
UBT Savings Account (COD Matured 10/3/2020)		\$	16,628.64
			\$ 16,628.64
TOTAL ASSETS			\$ 31,486.87

Vanguard Fund Update

As discussed in the Fall 2020 *Pilgrim News*, on September 26, 2021, the annual General Society per capita dues were raised from \$15 to \$35. This increase has put a strain on the Nebraska Society's finances, primarily due to the NSMD life members that we pay annual national dues on behalf of but do not collect income from. In order to position the organization for a strong future, the Board proposed investing our life member funds (approximately \$16,629) in a conservative Vanguard investment fund. This money was previously invested in a CD earning 1.45% interest. The fund proposed by the Board was Vanguard Balanced Index Fund Admiral Shares (VBIAX). During the Spring 2021 meeting this investment strategy was voted on affirmatively by the Nebraska Society members. This will align us with strategies pursued by other state societies and we believe it will position us for a long and successful future.

We are also grateful for the many donations received from life members, a current list of which is included in this report. Please consider a donation if you are able.

Please direct any questions to the NSMD treasurer, Bob Harvey (nsmdtreasurer@gmail.com)

Celebrating Membership Milestones

Congratulations to the following members, who have milestone membership anniversaries this year:

1971 – 50 years

Thomas Augustus Egbert, Omaha
Laveria June (Rice) McMichael, Appleton, WI

1976 – 45 years

Shaun Thomas Loughery, North Platte
Nancy Kay (Howland) Regier, Lincoln
Thomas Raymond Masters, Lincoln
Marilee Kay (Lewis) Malicky, Burwell
Glady Lorraine (Butcher) Scofield, David City

1986 – 35 years

Sherry Jean (Rosencrantz) Frye, Yutan
Vickie Lynn (Rosencrantz) Brammer, Wahoo
Robert Charles Rosencrantz, North Freedom, WI
Karen Kay (Rosencrantz) Zink, Lincoln
Rex Alan Baker, Hickman

1991 – 30 years

John Leslie Barton II, Tempe, AZ

1996 – 25 years

Susan Kay (Polhemus) McAdam, Omaha
Shirley Louise (James) Shelton, Central Point, OR

2006 – 15 years

Jessica Peale Douglas, Omaha
Shirley Mae (Hoevet) Johnson, Lincoln
Charles Silvey Pugsley III, Omaha
Colleen Marie Bowles, Golden, CO

2011 – 10 years

Fred Glen Lowery, Grand Island

2016 – 5 years

Bonnie Mae (Gerrard) Kolowski, Omaha
William Nathaniel Martin Beerman, Omaha
Kay Ellen (Watson) Janulewicz, St. Paul
Mary Beth Vedder, Bellevue
Christine Marie (Rose) Distefano, Omaha
Barbara Leanne (Lute) Endorf, Grand Island
Jeffrey Allen Harford, Lincoln
Patricia Ann (DeMott) Lucke, Omaha
Cynthia Paulette (Lichtenberg) Rademacher, Kearney

In Memory

William Robert Marsh, MD

Deceased 12 March 2021

A descendant of Thomas Rogers

Joined 1991

We care about each of our members, so please let us know immediately of any member's illness or death. Send updates to NebraskaMayflowerHistorian@gmail.com

Consider a Donation to the Whedon Scholarship

Because we aren't gathering in person for our Annual Meeting this fall, the Silent Auction fundraiser will be delayed until the Spring 2022 meeting. (Thanks to Cheryl Clark for again volunteering to organize this in the spring!) The Silent Auction has been the primary way we raise \$1,620 to award to a Nebraska high school senior planning to attend an accredited 4-year college or university for six years now.

Consequently, we could really use your help! Would you consider a donation to the Burt & Becky Whedon Memorial Scholarship? Maybe you could send money equal to what you might have spent on our turkey dinner? Of course, more would be very welcome! Donations can be on our website or by sending a check – see the Dues Reminder on Page 7 for the details.

Visit NebraskaMayflower.org

Even when we cannot meet, our society has a website: www.NebraskaMayflower.org It has the latest news, past issues of Pilgrim News, links to other Mayflower-related websites, a link to pay dues and meal costs (when we can gather in person again), and more!

We're on Facebook, too! Like us at www.facebook.com/nebraskamayflower



The 'Meetinghouse Makeover' A Work in Action

Our Mayflower Society Meetinghouse restoration is making tremendous progress! While you can learn more in the Mayflower Quarterly or on <https://themayflowersociety.org/visit/mayflower-meetinghouse/>, here are some highlights about your Mayflower Meetinghouse!

Following the transfer of the property from the First Parish Church congregation, exterior work began in 2019. This included restoration of the exceptional Tiffany-stained glass windows and roof replacement. Funding came from the city of Plymouth as a \$2.6 million Community Preservation Act grant. This work is complete.

A \$1.7 million bequest from a Mayflower descendant provided the endowment fund and began Phase I of the interior work.

Lea Filson, former GSMD governor general and president of the GSMD's National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse Charitable Trust, notes it's been a pleasant surprise how sound this building is, considering it opened in 1899. "The old girl has good bones," Filson said.

Interior work will transform the sanctuary into a state-of-the-art meeting space while retaining the original features of this monument to the Arts and Crafts movement. A new visitor entrance will make the space accessible. The downstairs will house educational exhibits and a gift shop. One bay of the sanctuary, complete with gold leaf, has been restored and was on display for those who journeyed up Leyden Street as part of the 2021 Pilgrims Progress.

Fundraising will continue to complete the project. Headway on that front, as well as on the building itself, is significant and satisfying!

Kathryn Morrissey, Governor

Marty's Brick in the Walk



Thanks to the generous support of our members, we were able to purchase a named brick in the walkway at Mayflower House in Plymouth to commemorate Martin Beerman's decade of service to the NSMD as Historian.

Donations Report Bob Harvey

Name	Category	
Steve Hunt	General	\$ 1,000.00
Bonnie & Rick Kolowski	Life Member Sustaining Donation	\$ 500.00
Tom Masters	Life Member Sustaining Donation	\$ 210.00
Colleen Messing	Life Member Sustaining Donation	\$ 125.00
Gretchen Harvey	Historian's Brick	\$ 75.00
Kathryn Morrissey	Historian's Brick	\$ 75.00
DiAnna Schimek	Historian's Brick	\$ 50.00
Connie Freed	Life Member Sustaining Donation	\$ 50.00
In Memoriam of Neva Peters	Life Member Sustaining Donation	\$ 35.00
Betty Albanez	General	\$ 5.00

GSMD Debuts New Website

The General Society in Plymouth debuted a new website in September at www.TheMayflowerSociety.org

After nearly a year of hard work and dedication by the GSMD Technology Committee (Nebraska Society Historian Marty Beerman is one of the Committee's four members), with the support of the Library and Administrative Teams, Executive Committee members and Committee Chairs, The Mayflower Society's new virtual front door is open and ready for visitors!

While a website serves many purposes, the new site is designed to focus on the Society's Mission and key activities of research and education. With that focus as the roadmap, the Society will further engage prospective members, donors, researchers, and of course, members—all with a visually appealing design and easy, intuitive navigation.

You will also notice the official debut of "The Mayflower Society" as GSMD's public face, reflecting how the Society is so often called. Be assured, however, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants name continues.

Some *new* features include pages devoted to the Mayflower Voyage, the Mayflower Compact, Women & Children of the Mayflower, profiles of each of the 26 Mayflower Passenger Families with descendants and a new online store.

For prospective members, there is expanded content about how to join The Mayflower Society, including Genealogy Tips and Tricks and Application Do's and Don'ts. For prospective donors, giving opportunities and demonstrating the strong impact donations have on the future of the Society are highlighted.

In the enhanced Members only area, members and Member Societies have access to a comprehensive menu of unique resources and Society contacts.

And this is only the beginning! New content, including more photos and videos, will continue to be added in the weeks and months ahead.

Welcome to the new www.TheMayflowerSociety.org!

And don't forget about the Nebraska Society site at www.NebraskaMayflower.org

Marty Beerman, NSMD Webmaster

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT PILGRIMS & PLYMOUTH

(Courtesy of Hotel 1620)

- Before the Pilgrims hired her, the Mayflower, a merchant vessel, was in the wine trade with France. Before that, she was in the fish trade with Norway.
- Pilgrims did not happen upon an unknown frontier. The waters off New England were fished by the English for at least 100 years before the Pilgrims landed.
- The Pilgrims did not name Plymouth. Captain John Smith explored the New England coast in 1614 and gave his map to Prince Charles. The Prince put names on the map such as Plymouth and the Charles River.
- The turkey, native to this country, was a familiar barnyard fowl in England – brought to Europe 100 years earlier by the Spanish.
- In Pilgrim households, the adults sat down to dinner and the children waited on them.
- The Mayflower did not land in Plymouth first. The Mayflower landed initially at the top of Cape Cod in what is now Provincetown.
- The Pilgrims used the word "corn" to describe wheat, rye, barley, oats, peas and beans. They used the term "Indian corn" when speaking of what we now call corn.
- The Pilgrims did not eat in courses as we know them. All foods were placed on the table at one time, including dessert. People ate in whatever order they chose.



Pilgrim News

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Whedon Scholarship Applications Opens on Jan. 1, 2022

At the Nebraska Society's Spring Meeting on May 1 in Omaha, we will be awarding the seventh Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants Burt & Becky Whedon Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,620 to a high school senior planning on attending an accredited 4-year college or university.

An avid genealogist, Becky (Allen) Whedon joined our Nebraska Society in 1982, a descendant of Pilgrim Francis Cooke, as well as Pilgrim Richard Warren. Becky served as our Society's historian for 18 years, from 1989 to 2007, completing applications for 167 members. Burt joined the Nebraska Society in 1977, a descendant of John Howland, as well as William Brewster. The Whedons served the Society as Deputy Governor General and Assistant General for many years, traveling to Plymouth for Mayflower General Congress and to annual Board of Assistants meetings around the country. Becky died in Omaha on January 16, 2011, at the age of 84. Burt died in Omaha on April 27, 2011, at the age of 88.

Scholarship applicants must be residents of Nebraska and United States citizens. Applications will be evaluated by a written essay, GPA and class rank, ACT or SAT scores, honors received, school or volunteer activities, employment, demonstrated leadership, and a letter of recommendation from a teacher or guidance counselor. Mayflower ancestry is NOT a requirement.

You will find the info needed to apply for the scholarship at our website **beginning Jan. 1, 2022**. The applications must be submitted in one PDF attachment, no later than **March 31, 2022**, to: nebraskamayflower@gmail.com