



Pilgrim News

Spring 2022

In-Person Spring Meeting! Sunday, May 1st

We are returning to an in-person meeting this spring! The General Society's Governor General, Jane Hurt, pictured on page 3, will be joining us. This meeting also features a **silent auction** to support the **Burt and Becky Whedon Scholarship** and the announcement of the 2022 scholarship winner.

The meeting will be held at a **new, convenient location** in Omaha--the community room of the Centris Credit Union, 13120 Pierce Street, Omaha, NE 68144. Please send the registration form (on page 4) in time to be received by **April 25th**.

Governor's Greetings

Happy Spring, Cousins!

Imagine the tremendous relief our ancestors felt in the spring of 1621! As they relished the warm and bright days of April, their minds also must have drifted to the sobering months recently past. Only half of the original 102 passenger who boarded the Mayflower survived the dark, dying time of the winter of 1620. For months, they watched helplessly as loved ones died from disease, cold and starvation. That spring, the future was still uncertain. Did our brave pilgrim mothers and fathers greet spring wholeheartedly? Did they smile envisioning fertile fields sprouting with new and familiar crops? Did they gape at nearby streams teeming with fish? I'd like to think so.

Spring is a time of hope and optimism. They were ready for it and we are, too!

As we rake away the dead leaves and somber tones of winter, we are surround by the tender pastels of new grass, budding trees and cheery daffodils. This year, it's not just outside where you will see signs of freshness. When you read about our Spring Meeting in this edition, you'll see we've taken a new, casual approach. We're eager to hear how you like it!

With gathering in person comes the chance to feather our nests with items from the long-awaited Silent Auction. A big thanks to Cheryl Clark for organizing it! Please bid generously and often because the proceeds go toward our \$1,620 scholarship. I'm truly looking forward exchanging our greetings in person in just a few weeks!

Kathryn Morrissey, Governor

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Visit NebraskaMayflower.org

Our Nebraska Society website has the latest news, past issues of *Pilgrim News*, links to other Mayflower-related websites, a link to pay dues, and more! We're on Facebook, too! Like us at www.facebook.com/nebraskamayflower

Silent Auction at Our Spring 2022 In-person Meeting

There will be a silent auction at our upcoming Spring Meeting in Omaha, as a fund raiser for the Burt and Becky Whedon Memorial Scholarship. The 2022 scholarship winner will also be announced at the meeting. We have not had the silent auction for two years and we need to support our scholarship!

Now is the time to purchase or find an item or items for the silent auction. It can be food, books, puzzles, patriotic items, pictures, and anything else an individual would want. Your contributions and bids help make the auction as success! Please let Cheryl Clark know about items you will bring, either call 308-325-3849 or email cherylclark@q.com. Tell her what the items are and also if you have a minimum bid for which the item can be purchased. If possible, please let Cheryl know before **Friday, April 29**. Don't forget to bring the items to the May 1 meeting.

Of course, the auction needs bidders, too. Please come to the meeting to catch up with members new and old, to meet Jane Hurt, the Governor General of the General Society, and to participate in the auction. We expect a wide variety of interesting items, Let's show how we can raise money for this worthy goal!

Governor General Jane Hurt is Spring Meeting Guest

JANE E. GROVES RIDDELL HURT was elected as Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) in September 2020 at its first virtual General Congress. Governor General Hurt leads the GSMD Executive Committee and General Board of Assistants to govern the Society's Plymouth, Massachusetts, international headquarters and serve its 31,000 plus membership.

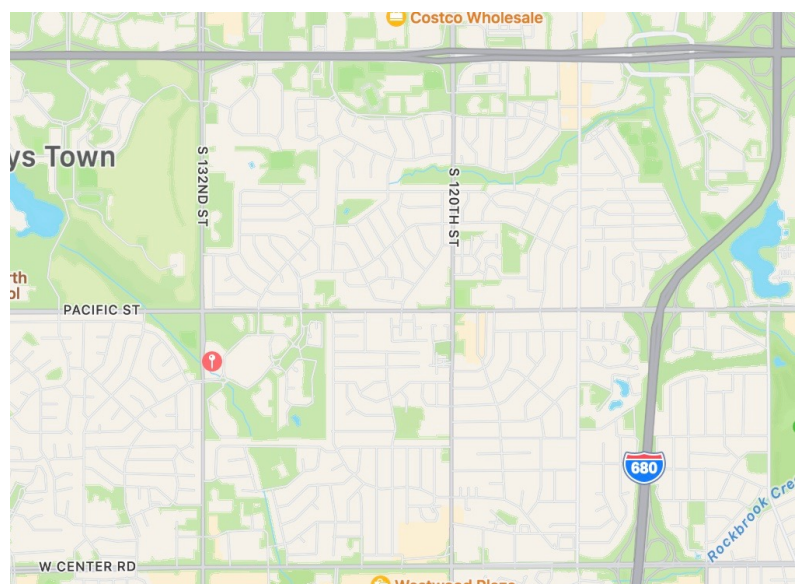
Jane is a member and past Governor of the Kansas Society. She joined GSMD through her Pilgrim ancestors, William White, his wife, Susanna Jackson White, and their son Peregrine White. She has also proven lineage from Pilgrim passengers Francis Cooke, his son, John Cooke and Richard Warren of the Mayflower.



Directions to Spring Meeting

The Spring meeting will be held at the community room of
Centris Credit Union,
13120 Pierce Street,
Omaha, NE 68144.

It is a new building near the southeast corner of 132nd Street and Pacific Street. See the **red dot** on the map to the right.



Let's Celebrate Our Centenary!

Do you know what happened on **December 16, 1922**? Almost 100 years ago, the Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants was chartered – the 18th Member Society (formerly State Society) in the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Also this year, the General Society is celebrating the 125th anniversary of its founding in 1897.

Reaching this milestone is monumental for our Nebraska Society, so how do we commemorate it?

Ideas are coming in and we'd like you, our cousins and members, to give us feedback. Better yet, will you volunteer to be part of a committee to make plans? To help execute projects

Here are some suggestions for consideration:

- Historian Marty Beerman has a collection of Mayflower plays. Would you be willing to be an actor in a scene or two at our annual meeting next November?
- Are you into social media? We could develop a campaign to communicate the impact of our organization.
- Our roots in Nebraska run deep. Thoughts about donating a tree or planting a shrub? How about funding or planting Nebraska native plants in your local park, historic garden or conservation center?
- Could you tell the story of the first Thanksgiving at your local public library or elementary school? If there's interest, one of our members has a contact with Scholastic books. Perhaps you could volunteer to read a book about our ancestors then donate it? Publicizing that in advance with the local media might get some good additional publicity and generate new member inquiries!
- Speaking of membership, our numbers are trending down. Do you know a member who lapsed but could be invited back? Could you help us get in touch with them if we provided phone numbers or email addresses?
- Do you know of something we could create and sell as a fundraiser?

What ideas do you have that aren't listed? We'd love to hear from you! Please contact Kathryn Morrissey or Marty Beerman, (email addresses in the directory on page 5) to volunteer or to give your feedback.

Spring Meeting Plans

We will gather—face-to-face—for the Spring *meeting (cue clapping)*. Not only will the Silent Auction be in place to tempt you with unique “must have” items, we also will host our Governor General Jane *Hurt as the guest speaker (thundering applause)!*

One thing we will be freshening is the format of our Spring Meeting. Those of you who attended in-person in the past know that we utilized hotel meeting rooms and served a plated lunch. To lower costs and to encourage participation, on May 1, we're trying something new. We will be at the lovely, new Community Room at Centris Federal Credit Union in Omaha and ordering boxed lunches. Options are listed on the order form; all lunches also include chips, a cup of fresh fruit, and a cookie. We also are encouraging everyone to dress more casually! (Thanks to Marty & Jane Beerman for alerting us to this great location!)

At the time of this writing, masks are not required although any member feeling more comfortable wearing a mask is encouraged to do so. We anticipate sufficient room to allow for some social distancing as we set up classroom style. We will continue to monitor national, state and local recommendations for bringing groups together safely. Additional appreciation goes to our **Nebraska Society Surgeon Audrey Paulman**, on whom we will continue to rely for sound advice.

Because the deposit will be returned if we clean-up well, members of the Board of Assistants and officers have volunteered to help before and after the meeting. **Thank you for doing your part to keep the space as pristine as possible while we enjoy ourselves!**

Please complete the registration form and make payment by **April 25th**. If you require a vegetarian option, we are happy to accommodate you. Just indicate this when you register and tell us the best way to contact you to work out the details.

2022 Spring Meeting Reservation Form

Member Name(s): _____

Guests: _____

Adult(s): _____ @ \$20.00/meal Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Box Lunch & Beverage (choose one lunch and one beverage for each person)

Lunch Choices: Chicken Salad Croissant _____ Club Cibatta _____

Chicken Caesar Wrap _____ Ham & Cheese Wrap _____ Turkey & Cheese Wrap _____

Beverage Choices: Bottled Water _____ Bottled Tea _____

For Gluten-Free or Vegetarian, please contact Kathryn Morrissey by email by April 25.

When: Sunday, May 1st at 1 p.m.

Where: Centris Credit Union,
13120 Pierce Street,
Omaha, NE 68144

Please send this form and checks payable to the **Nebraska Mayflower Society** to be **received** by **April 25** to:
Gretchen Harvey, 17503 V St,
Omaha, NE 68135.

Fall 2021 Minutes

Meeting Held at 10:00 am on Saturday, November 20, 2021, on Zoom

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.

Historian Marty Beerman introduced new members and those with pending membership.

Treasurer Bob Harvey gave an overview of moving our finances to Vanguard Funds VBIAX Investments and delineated the following amounts as of February in his treasury report:

Operating cash \$12,569.60

Income \$5,317.74 with 43 dues paying members

Donations \$1,000 from 10 members

Expenses of \$3,029.11, part of which was the 1620 scholarship

Cash \$14,858.23

Savings \$16,628.24

Total Assets \$31,486.24

Historian Marty Beerman did the membership review: 283 members; 19 new in 2021 (completed in 2020), 7 pending which will be approved in 2022; 1 transfer, 4 resignations, and 2 deaths.

Governor Kathryn Morrissey added that Historian Beerman now holds a title of Professional Genealogist, and members congratulated him.

Governor Morrissey began her report with a request to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter. Motion was made and approved. She reminded us that our Nebraska Society's 100th Anniversary was coming up and asked for members to give suggestions as to how we could celebrate that auspicious event. She's hoping that our society will be able to gather in person in 2022 and that the Board of Assistants will also be able to meet in person and get our committees going again.

Deputy Governor General Gretchen Harvey read the slate of new officers as proposed by the Nominating Committee, as published in the Fall 2021 Newsletter.

As there were no nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded that the slate be accepted as proposed; all in favor raised hands. No nays.

Old Business: none

New Business

Marty Beerman reported the Burt and Becky Whedon Memorial Scholarship winner for Spring will be announced at our May 1, 2022 meeting. Applications are available in January to any high school senior in Nebraska; usually there are 20 to 40 applications. Donations from our silent auction, which is held at our annual dinner, fund this \$1620 scholarship. This year our auction will be in May. In the meantime, members can donate on our website or send a check to Treasurer Robert Harvey.

Governor Morrissey remarked that perhaps members could consider donating the amount you would have spent traveling to/on the dinner, to help fund this scholarship. Plans are being made for our May 1st meeting, which Mayflower Governor Jane Hurt will be attending. We will also be holding our annual silent auction at that time, so be thinking of items to bring and be watching for further news.

Elder Reinert gave the Benediction

Governor Morrissey called the meeting to a close.

2022 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 | Cindy Rademacher
(308) 627-9389 or clich1970@yahoo.com

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

Historian | Marty Beerman
(402) 709-3786 or
NebraskaMayflowerHistorian@gmail.com

Elder | Ann Reinert
(816) 806-6602 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

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

Susan Rice (2023)
(402) 227-3855 or pr20919@windstream.net

Stephanie Donsig (2024)
(402) 326-5504 or sdonsig23@gmail.com

Judith Moore (2024)
(402) 269-3480 or faysyracuse@outlook.com

Verla Ringenberg (2024)
(402) 202-8858 or vringenberg@gmail.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 | Vacant

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

Audit | John Keller & John Reinert

Membership Report

Our current membership is 274. We ended 2021 with 271 members. In 2021, we gained 19 new members and one transfer. Two members died, four resigned, and 12 were dropped for non-payment of 2021 dues.

Since Jan. 1, 2022, four new member applications were approved, and one member's death was recorded.

Martin Beerman, Historian

Welcome New Members!

Name	Number	Residence	Pilgrim Ancestor
John Charles Weaver	100799-1201	Santa Barbara, CA	John Alden
John Paul Munro (Transfer from AZ)	72988-1202	Omaha	Richard Warren
Peggy Ann (Kline) Miller	101376-1203	Aurora, CO	Stephen Hopkins
Patricia Harriett (Cox) Crews	101447-1204	Lincoln	Richard Warren
Christine Ann (Curley) Finson	101468-1205	Waverly	John Alden
Patricia Ann (Agler) Abels	101575-1206	North Platte	Thomas Rogers

In Memorium

We are sorry to report the death of **Sara Adeliade Ainscow** of Omaha on December 14, 2021. She joined our society in 1964 as a descendent of Pilgrim Samuel Fuller.

Supplemental Application Approved

The Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants congratulates **Joan Marie Laughlin**, Lincoln, a descendant of Pilgrims John Alden, Henry Samson, Myles Standish and Priscilla Mullins on the approval of a supplemental application for Pilgrim **Richard Warren**.

Applicants waiting for final approval

Name	Residence
Judy Kay (Martin) Ekeler	Fremont
Laura Marie (Hunt) Frey	Cedar Rapids
Jo Anna Jean (Stogdill) Sheets	Lincoln
Carrie Ann (Colson) Krett	Parker, CO
Lorene Rae (Cass) Cooper	Waldorf, MD

SAVE THESE DATES!

Fall 2022 Meeting

The Fall 2022 Meeting is scheduled for November 20, the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Spring 2023 Meeting

The Spring 2023 Meeting is scheduled for Sunday April 23, the fourth Sunday in April.

Whedon Scholarship Recognizes Academic Achievement and Service

At the Nebraska Society's Spring Meeting on Sunday, May 1, the Society will award the eighth Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants Burt & Becky Whedon Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,620 to a high school senior planning to attend an accredited four-year college or university during the 2021-'22 academic year.

An avid genealogist, Becky (Allen) Whedon joined the Nebraska Society in 1982, a descendant of Pilgrim Francis Cooke. She was also a descendant of Pilgrim Richard Warren. Becky served as state 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. He was also a descendant of William Brewster. The Whedons also 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 Jan. 16, 2011, age 84. Burt died in Omaha on April 27, 2011, age 88.

Scholarship applicants must be residents of Nebraska and U.S. citizens. Applicants 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.

If you would like to make a donation to support the Nebraska Society's Burt & Becky Whedon Memorial Scholarship, you can make a donation on our website at www.NebraskaMayflower.org or send a check, payable to Nebraska Mayflower, to Treasurer Bob Harvey, 17503 V St., Omaha, NE 68135.

Audit Update

Below is the audit report from John Keller and John Reinhart.



March 20, 2022

Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants:

We have reviewed the books and records of the Society. We specifically inspected the Spring 2019 and the Fall 2021 Reports and supporting information, including and not limited to general ledger detail, bank statements, and investment account statements. In our opinion, the books and records and financial reports accurately represent the financial position of the Society for the periods reviewed.

John F. Keller
John Reinhart
The Audit Committee of the Board of Assistants of the
Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants

Treasurer's Report Bob Harvey

NSMD - Spring 2022 REPORT

CASH ON HAND, September 30, 2021			\$ 14,858.23
INCOME			
National Dues	138 @ 35	\$	4,830.00
State Dues	138 @ 10	\$	1,380.00
Application Fee	4 @ 150	\$	600.00
Recovery of Underpayment of dues		\$	435.00
Donations		\$	1,626.58
Interest - Checking		\$	9.51
			<u>\$ 8,881.09</u>
DISBURSEMENTS			
GSMD Annual Assessment		\$	8,795.00
Application Fees to GSMD		\$	500.00
Fall 2021 Newsletter Expenses		\$	338.44
PayPal Fees		\$	152.80
Accounting Software		\$	78.00
			<u>\$ (9,864.24)</u>
CASH ON HAND, February 28, 2022			\$ 13,875.08
OTHER ASSETS			
Market Value of Investment Portfolio as of February 28, 2022		\$15,597.23	
			<u>\$ 15,597.23</u>
TOTAL ASSETS			<u><u>\$ 29,472.31</u></u>

Donation Report

Listed below are all donations received since the last report in the Fall 2021 Pilgrim News. Please direct questions to NSMD Treasurer Bob Harvey (nsmdtreasurer@gmail.com)

We are grateful for the ongoing donations received from our members! Because of the increase in General Society dues from \$15 to \$35 in 2021, the Nebraska Society has a financial challenge: to pay national dues each year for our life members. To help with meeting that challenge, we have moved our investments from Bank CDs to a conservative Vanguard fund, as reported last fall. We also ask our Life Members to consider a donation to sustain our society, if you are in a position to do so.

Donations Report Bob Harvey

Name	Category	Amount
Audrey Paulman	General	\$ 250.00
Kathryn Morrissey	Scholarship	\$ 250.00
Kathryn Morrissey	Life Member Sustaining Donation	\$ 250.00
Priscilla Grew	General	\$ 222.00
Cindy Rademacher	Scholarship	\$ 100.00
Rob Laughlin	Life Member Sustaining Donation	\$ 100.00
Robert Harvey	General	\$ 100.00
Verla Ringenberg	Scholarship	\$ 50.00
Diane Hartman	General	\$ 40.00
Milada Rice Henke	General	\$ 10.00
Miscellaneous	General	\$ 254.58



Pilgrim News

8704 Douglas St
Omaha, NE 68114-4035

Minnesota Meeting of GSMD Board of Assistants in September

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the state of Minnesota is hosting the General Society Board of Assistants meeting in Bloomington, Minnesota, from **September 7 through September 11** this fall. We had such a great group from Nebraska last fall, so I am hoping we can do the same this year. In order to obtain our group discount, you will need to register for the hotel stay at Radisson Blue at Mall of America by **August 10**. The Minnesota Society is planning fun tours and events, which include visiting Paisley Park, home of **Prince**, and, of course, there will be lots of shopping available at Mall of America. Further details about registration can be found at the General Society of Mayflower Descendants website. Any questions, please ask me. Hope to see you there in September!

Gretchen Harvey
Deputy Governor General for State of Nebraska
nebraskamayflower@gmail.com



Fort Snelling, built in the 1820's as a military outpost near Bloomington, MN, at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers, is now a state historic park.