

Pilgrim News

Fall 2023

Governor's Greetings

The bur oak we planted to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our organization seems to be thriving. Throughout the summer, it swayed in the breeze and reached toward the sun. It's a little taller now but most of the "action" is taking place underground where it's sinking roots deep for food and creating an anchor for future growth.

That oak reminds me of our Nebraska Society. Every one of us is important to the health of our organization. The participation of some members is more active at present while the past involvement of others gave us deep roots. Some gifts are easy to recognize, and some are anonymous. What's important is that we feel the bonds of common heritage. As our ancestors said in the Mayflower Compact, we "combine ourselves together into a civil Body Polick for our better Ordering and Preservation...."

Since 1923, our members have sustained an organization that celebrates the people and the ideas that were the roots of America. These roots enabled our nation to grow from a proverbial acorn to a mighty oak.

Our Nebraska Society will always need your support – through annual dues, 1620 Scholarship donations, Silent Auction items, service on our Board and Committees and the like. The General Society must do the same. It's the nature of all non-profits.

The important thing is that we do what we can – when we can. Please don't feel pressured by our appeals but know they are gratefully accepted if you are able to give. As The Byrds sang in their adaptation of Ecclesiastes, "to everything there is a season, turn, turn, turn."

Happy Fall, Cousins!

Kathryn Morrissey, Governor

Change in Date of Spring 2024 Meeting

The new date of the Spring 2024 meeting is **April 7, 2024**. This timing is earlier than usual, so we wanted to make you aware now, to give everyone time to plan.

Historically, our meetings have followed a pattern. The fourth Sunday in April is designated for our Spring Meeting and the Sunday before Thanksgiving is our Annual Meeting. Periodically, we may need to deviate from these for example to accommodate a guest speaker or to reserve a meeting location. We will give you as much notice as possible of these changes. We appreciate your flexibility!

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SAVE THESE DATES!

Spring 2024 Meeting

Our Spring 2024 Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday April 7**, earlier than usual.

Fall 2024 Meeting

Our Society's Fall 2024 Meeting is planned for **November 24**, the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

CHEERS FOR MARTY & OUR GSMD PARTICIPANTS

Most of you know the many ways **Marty Beerman** is instrumental to our Nebraska Society. As Historian, he has guided more than 225 of us through the application process and later submitted our supplementals. Among his many leadership contributions, Marty was Nebraska Society Governor, Nebraska Society Assistant General, and a long-time editor of the *Pilgrim News*. He also oversaw membership, created our website, and still serves as webmaster and on the Board of Assistants. Marty and his wife, Jane, also founded the Whedon Memorial Scholarship.

Now Marty's making us proud as the newly elected **Secretary General** of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD). In this role, he is responsible for documenting the Society's official proceedings and all communication to the member societies. As a member of the GSMD Executive Committee for the next three years, Marty is a key decision-maker and will serve as the national chair of the **Meeting and Events Committee**, and as a member of the Technology, Bylaws, Personnel and *Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* Committees.

Three others from our Nebraska Society also are offering their talents to GSMD. Since 2022, **Bob Harvey** has been serving in the distinguished position of one of five **Trustee of Endowment Funds** for the GSMD. In this position, Bob oversees financial resources used for the general benefit of the GSMD and the preservation and upkeep of the historic Mayflower Society House in Plymouth. Bob also serves as our Nebraska Society Treasurer.

Gretchen Harvey (Deputy Governor General and past Nebraska Society Governor) has served for the past five years on the **Meeting and Events Committee** which helps plan the GSMD meetings as well as the activities and tours available for members and their families during the meetings. She has been asked to serve for another three years and looks forward to serving with new committee member, **Kathryn Morrissey**, our Nebraska Society Governor.



General Society of Mayflower Descendants General Congress Meeting 2023

This fall, our Historian Marty Beerman, his wife Jane, and Bill and I attended the Forty-Third General Congress meeting in Plymouth. We were so excited to also have with us our son Bob and his wife Molly. Bob is the Treasurer for our Nebraska Society and is also a Trustee for the Mayflower Society House for GSMD. We took a short trip to Boston before the meeting and enjoyed walking along the beautiful Freedom Trail. A highlight this year was a tour to the Massachusetts State House in Boston, where the members attended a private viewing of the original William Bradford manuscript, popularly known as "Of Plimoth Plantation". We also attended a private party on the Mayflower II, which is a reproduction of our original Mayflower ship, and were able to attend a private tour of the newly renovated Mayflower Society House. Past GSMD Governor Jane Hurt did a terrific job of working with restoration groups to make sure our beautiful Society House will be preserved for future generations.

As mentioned above, our own Marty Beerman has been elected Secretary General for the GSMD. We are so excited for Marty for this well-deserved honor. He will be working closely with the newly-elected Governor General Lisa Pennington and has already begun his duties. Way to go, Marty!

The Mayflower Meetinghouse is continuing with restoration work, which includes the installation of an ADA elevator to access the various levels of the Meetinghouse. Work continues on this exciting project, which will be a great educational resource for GSMD and visitors to Plymouth!

Our next Board of Assistants meeting will be in the fall of 2024 in Asheville, North Carolina. If anyone is interested in attending, please let me know.

Gretchen Harvey
Deputy Governor General for Nebraska

Fall 2023 Meeting at Hillcrest Country Club in Lincoln

Our fall meeting will again be at Hillcrest County Club in Lincoln, on November 19th. We look forward to seeing everyone in person. Details about our traditional menu and the reservation form are at the bottom of this page.

The **Board of Assistants** meets in the **Ballroom** at **Noon** and our **General Meeting** will begin at 1:00 pm in the **Ballroom**. The **Silent Auction** also will be set up there.

Please don't procrastinate on sending your reservation. We'd love to see everyone in person and need your support for our Silent Auction. Let's make this meeting a meaningful celebration of our ancestors' harvest festival more than 400 years ago.



Fall Meeting RSVP Information

Please RSVP by **Tuesday, November 7** so we can provide our final count to Hillcrest. Send your reservation form (at the bottom of this page) and checks payable to the Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants to **Gretchen Harvey, 17503 V St, Omaha, NE 68135** – or pay at www.NebraskaMayflower.org/dues using PayPal or a credit card. If you pay online, please contact Kathryn Morrissey with any dietary restrictions by the deadline, either by email at kathryn4manmorrissey@gmail.com or by phone at 402-670-3836. The cost is \$35 per person.



Driving Directions

To reach Hillcrest Country Club: from I-80, take exit 409 for US-6 toward Waverly/East Lincoln, then turn onto 84th Street and then take a left onto O Street. Hillcrest's drive is on the right,

As noted above, the Board of Assistants will meet at noon before the lunch meeting. As a member of our Society, you are always welcome to attend the Board of Assistants meeting. Come early and learn more about the many activities of our Nebraska Society.

2023 Fall Meeting Reservation Form

Member Name(s): _____

Guests: _____

Adult(s): _____ @ \$35.00/meal Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Please send this form and checks, payable to the **Nebraska Mayflower Society** to be **received** by **Nov 7** to: Gretchen Harvey, 17503 V St, Omaha, NE 68135

When: Sunday, Nov 19 at 1 p.m.

Where: Hillcrest Country Club

9410 East O St,

Lincoln

Menu: Traditional Thanksgiving

Dinner, turkey and all!

Spring 2023 Minutes

On April 23, 2023, members were welcomed, and the Meeting was called to order by Governor Kathryn Morrissey.

The Invocation was given by Elder Ann Reinert, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Governor Morrissey. Members were encouraged to eat their pre-ordered box lunches while the meeting proceeded.

After introductions, Secretary Cindy Rademacher read the Mayflower Compact and gave a brief history of six of the signers.

Passenger Roll Call was led by Marty Beerman, with assistance in counting by John Reinert & Bob Harvey. Pilgrim Richard Warren had the most descendants present with 11.

Marty Beerman gave the Membership report- we currently have 271 members. Marty discussed the reason for a potential increase in application fees, citing an increase in fees from GSMD.

Bob Harvey gave the Treasurer's report- see his report in the Spring 2023 Pilgrim News [Also, the Fall 2023 Treasurer's Report is on Page 10].

Governor Morrissey began her report with a request for approval of the minutes of the November 20, 2022, meeting. Motion was made, seconded & approved by membership vote. The Annual Meeting has been scheduled for November 19, 2023, with a Silent Auction, the funds of which will go toward the \$1,620 Scholarship, given in honor of Burt and Becky Whedon. Governor Morrissey thanked Rob Laughlin for contacting Life Members to discuss their plans to be active members or resign, due to the cascading effect of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) increasing our dues. Governor Morrissey also thanked Jane Beerman and the greeters for their help with the meeting.

Marty Beerman, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, highlighted the details of the scholarship process and named Thomas Kaus of Chadron, Nebraska as the winner. Thomas was unable to attend the meeting but his essay profiling a Pilgrim and the impact of our ancestors, appears on our website. Marty also introduced Fawn Horner as our new Scholarship Chair, as Marty will be assuming new duties as Secretary General of GSMD.

The 100th Anniversary of our Society's founding on May 19, 1923, was recognized by the planting of a bur oak tree, amid a spring snowstorm, in Hanscom Park. (Hanscom Park was chosen as it is the oldest of Omaha's parks.) An information sheet accompanied our meeting program, with all the details of that organizational meeting held in 1923. Governor Morrissey also has reached out to the office of Governor Pillen, requesting recognition of our 100th Anniversary.

NSMD members can now order a short-sleeved t-shirt on our website.

For the Good of the Order, Ted Erickson brought two books to share that he and his wife published after attending a lineage society in PA and a Warren society trip.

A Mayflower Bingo game entertained the group, with prizes for the winners.

Elder Ann Reinert gave the Benediction, and the meeting was adjourned by Governor Morrissey. Packets of seeds were offered to members and guests on their departure.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Rademacher, Secretary

2023 Directory of Officers

Governor | Kathryn Morrissey
(402) 670-3836 or kathryn4manmorrissey@gmail.com

Deputy Governor | Vacant

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

Cheryl Clark (2023)
(308) 325-3849 or cherylclark47@gmail.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

John Reinert (2025)
(402) 432-9168 or jr6@aol.com

Jesse Harding (2025)
402-547-9340 or jesse@jesseharding.us

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

Pilgrim News Editor | Stephanie Donsig, Lincoln

Public Relations | Thomas Masters, Lincoln

Webmaster | Marty Beerman, Omaha

Scholarship | Marty Beerman, Omaha

Scholarship Auction | Cheryl Clark, Elwood

Audit | John Reinert

Welcome New Members!

Name	Number	Residence	Pilgrim Ancestor
Laureen Elizabeth (Buckridge) Powell	104218-1220	York	Henry Samson
Amy Nichole (Kriebs) Allbaugh	104540-1221	Elkhorn	Henry Samson
Kathryn Jolene (Ritchie) Walz	104486-1222	Tacoma, Wash.	John Alden
Randy Lee Wallace	104844-1223	Omaha	Richard Warren
Cynthia Jean (Cary) Horigan	104845-1224	Big Timber, Mont.	Richard Warren

Supplemental Applications Approved

The Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants congratulates the following members

Name	Residence	Ancestors	Supplemental Pilgrim Ancestors
Kathryn Jolene (Ritchie) Walz	Tacoma, WA	John Alden	William Mullins, Priscilla (Mullins) Alden
Verla Lee (White) Ringenberg	Lincoln	Francis Cooke	James Chilton
Trudy Lynne (Ritchie) Schlumberger	Omaha	John Alden	William Brewster, Richard Warren

Nebraska Society - Nominating Committee Report for 2024 Positions

2024 Officers:

Governor: Kathryn Morrissey, Omaha
 Deputy Governor: Cheryl Clark, Elwood
 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
 Public Relations: Tom Masters, Lincoln

2024 Board of Assistants:

Judy Ekeler (2026), Fremont
 Susan Rice (2026), Nehawka
 Jesse Harding (2025), Omaha
 John Reinert (2025), Lincoln
 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: Kathryn Morrissey, Omaha

Ninth Whedon Memorial Scholarship

With fall comes the frenzy for high school seniors to begin the college application process. Along with college applications, many are looking for scholarships to help fund their education. The Nebraska Society of Mayflower descendants offers the Ninth Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants Burt & Becky Whedon Memorial Scholarship.

In order to apply, scholarship applicants must:

- Be a high school senior planning on attending an accredited 4-year college or university.
- Be a resident of Nebraska and a United States citizen.
- Complete the assigned essay.
- Submit academic information (grades, GPA, honors, etc.)
- Provide extra-curricular information (e.g., school activities, leadership opportunities, employment)

Mayflower ancestry is NOT a requirement. The recipient will be awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$1,620 and announced at the Nebraska Society's 2024 Spring meeting.

We are still working out the details for submission and hoping to have a digital or online application process. Please spread the word about this great opportunity for high school seniors and check the website in January 2024 for all the details.

The scholarship is awarded in memory of Becky (Allen) Whedon and Burt Whedon. Becky 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 Wheldon's 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.



Thomas Kaus of Chadron, Nebraska received the Eighth Burt & Becky Whedon Scholarship. His essay is on the following page.

Silent Auction Items Needed!

Please donate items for the silent auction at our Fall 2023 meeting or consider donating money towards this cause. Inexpensive items are needed and items with a connection to the Mayflower or the Pilgrims who sailed on her often attract interest.

Send your list of items by **November 15, 2023** to cherylclark47@gmail.com (This is a new email address.) We need your support.

Then attend our November meeting and BID! BID! BID! All monies go to the scholarship fund.

Again, please use the email address cherylclark47@gmail.com

Your support for the auction is essential to keeping the Whedon Scholarship, now in its ninth year, going strong!

Eighth Whedon Memorial Scholarship Winning Essay – Thomas Kaus

New York, January 1, 1864

"A happy new year" to thee, my own beloved Elizabeth Cady Stanton,

I hope this bright but cold morning finds thee brilliant as usual and enriched with many warm friends. Remember, among them all, thou shall not find one who loves thee more devotedly or would do more to render this and all thy future years "happy", than him whose hand traces these lines.

As I reflect upon the events of 1863: the Emancipation Proclamation, the Battle of Gettysburg, and our fight for justice for women and African Americans, it brings to mind our descendant, William Brewster, who came to these shores on the Mayflower. I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude for the sacrifices he made and the legacy he left behind. It is a legacy that hath shaped this country. I am inclined to believe the ideals being fought for in this War of Rebellion and those articulated in the Mayflower Compact, both represent important moments in American politics and the ongoing struggle to create "a more perfect union".

If thee will recall, William Brewster made significant contributions to the Plymouth Colony and played a crucial role in shaping the early history of the colonies. He left an indelible mark on both religious and political institutions.

As an elder of the Separatist congregation, Brewster shaped the religious beliefs and practices of the Plymouth Colony and played an essential role in the establishment of the first church. His influence can be seen in the development of Congregationalism, a form of Protestantism that emphasized the independence of individual churches. He was known for his strong commitment to religious freedom and his belief in the autonomy of local churches. By way of example, he opposed the appointment of ministers by a centralized authority, instead advocating for the election of pastors by the congregation.

Think on this my lovely Elizabeth, Brewster's dedication to religious freedom and his commitment to justice are values that have been passed down through our family for generations. He believed that every individual had the right to worship as they saw fit, without fear of persecution or discrimination. This is a belief we share, as we fight for women's suffrage, abolitionism, and the rights of people to live free from oppression.

Furthermore, Brewster's commitment to religious freedom can be seen in interactions with Native American tribes. Brewster respected their religious beliefs and sought to build relationships based on mutual respect and understanding. He was highly respected by the Native Americans for his wisdom, integrity, and fairness. As the Pilgrims' religious leader and advisor to Governor William Bradford, he worked to establish trade relationships with the Wampanoag led by Chief Massasoit and to negotiate treaties that would ensure peaceful coexistence. His leadership and guidance helped to establish a cooperative relationship between the two groups, which allowed both to prosper in the early years.

As you are well aware, it is important to note, Brewster continues to inspire those of us who seek to build bridges of understanding and cooperation between different cultures and communities.

For fear of doing Brewster an injustice, I feel I must speak of his political role in the establishment of civil government in the Plymouth Colony. He helped draft and signed the Mayflower Compact, which established a temporary government based on the consent of the governed and self-government. This framework for self-governance served as a model for the United States Constitution. He was also involved in the administration of the colony; helping establish the legal and political frameworks. His influence can be seen in the development of the New England town meeting system, which emphasized local self-government and direct citizen participation in decision-making. He established a strong sense of community and shared purpose among the settlers. This sense of unity helped to create a strong and stable foundation for the early years of the colony.

Oh, Elizabeth! My heart weeps to think that the foundation is being tested. We must never forsake the fight for equality and justice in this War of Rebellion. Rather, look to William Brewster as a source of inspiration and guidance. His commitment to freedom, justice, and cooperation are values that we must continue to uphold and work towards. I pray each day this country will mend its tattered soul. Progress is the law of God and change is His breath.

As Brewster has done, so too do we endeavor to fight for freedom and justice through women's suffrage and abolitionism in the hopes future generations will do the same for injustices in their time.

We must ever be cognizant of Brewster's legacy which extends far beyond his contributions to the Plymouth Colony and serves as an inspiration for those, like us, who value freedom and democracy. Brewster's legacy can be seen in the lasting impact of Congregationalism and the New England town meeting system on American religious and political institutions.

I state emphatically that he must be remembered as a symbol of the values and principles that were central to the founding of the United States. He was a strong advocate for individual freedom, religious liberty, and the right to self-governance, all of which are fundamental to our democracy. When I think upon it, I am inspired by his resilience and determination.

My dear Elizabeth, I feel a sense of responsibility to honor his legacy by living my life with purpose and integrity. I wish to make a positive impact on the world, just as he did. I will endeavor to continue our current social reforms including women's rights and suffrage, and abolitionism with thee by my side. It is my fervent desire that William Brewster will now and forever continue to inspire those who fight for social justice today and in the future.

In closing, Dearest E, it does afford me so much pleasure to get a few lines dictated by your great heart, that the hours pass slowly till they come.

God bless you! Your own,

Henry Brewster Stanton

Proposed By-law Changes - Membership Dues & Fees

As a result of General Society of Mayflower Descendants' recent increase in Application and Supplemental Application Fees, our Board of Assistants has proposed and unanimously passed a recommendation to amend Article V, Fees and Dues, Sections 1 and 2 by changing the amounts as set forth below.

Amendments to the By-Laws are governed by Article VI which states: "By-Laws may be amended at an Annual Meeting, or at a Semi-Annual Meeting ... by a vote of not less than two thirds ... provided that at least fifteen days prior to the meeting ... a copy of such amendment shall have been mailed or emailed to all Active Members...." Therefore, if this is published in the Fall 2023 *Pilgrim News* at least 15 days prior to the upcoming meeting scheduled for November 19, 2023, we can vote on the change at the time of the Annual Fall Meeting.

BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Current language in ARTICLE V - FEES AND DUES

The Bylaws currently provide for Application and Supplemental Application fees as follows:

ARTICLE V – FEES AND DUES

Section 1. The Entrance Fee shall be \$150.00. \$25 is payable to the Nebraska Society. \$125 is payable to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. (Amended 11/14/2020)

Section 2. The Annual Dues shall be forty-five dollars for the calendar year, due and payable in January of each year. The payment of dues by a member elected during the three months preceding the Annual Meeting (November) shall continue his membership until the end of the next succeeding fiscal year. A Supplemental Application Fee shall be \$150.00. (Amended 11/14/2020).

Proposed Amendments:

Section 1. Amend the "The Entrance Fee shall be \$150. \$25 is payable to the Nebraska Society. \$125 is payable to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants" to read: "The Application Fee shall be **\$175.00.**"

[Note to members: this fee increase is due to the recent increase by the General Society in their application fee for state chapters from \$125 to \$150.]

Section 2. Amend "Supplemental Application Fee shall be \$150" to read, "Supplemental Application Fee shall be **\$175.00.**"

In summary, the changes need to be made to reflect the General Society's increased Application Fee and Fee for Supplemental Applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Laughlin, Counsellor
Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants
Cell (402) 657-2293
Work (402) 334-0900
rallow@radiks.net

Pilgrims, Not Puritans

by Kathryn Morrissey

Have you ever been confused by whether our ancestors were Pilgrims or Puritans? If so, you would be in good company. While many of us may have Puritans in our family tree, I hope to explain why you should be proud to be the descendant of Pilgrims.

After the saints and strangers arrived, subsequent generations of New Englanders referred to them as “First Comers” and “Old Comers.” William Bradford said of those on the Mayflower, “... (they) knew they were pilgrims here and below, and looked not much on those things, but lifted their eyes to the heavens...” Most scholars believe, however, that Governor Bradford wasn’t giving these brave souls the label of “Pilgrims.” Instead, he was paraphrasing a Bible verse. Bradford was saying Christians journey through life on earth with its trials and tribulations before arriving at their heavenly home. It wasn’t until the early 1800s that the “capital P” Pilgrim was specific to those who established a colony in Plimoth in 1620.

Our popular culture is full of mix-ups between these two groups. Many of us have seen Pilgrims depicted as people dressed in black and white. But it was the Puritans who passed laws requiring “respectable” attire and most often dressed in black. Our Pilgrim ancestors dyed their clothing colorful shades of red, green, blue, violet and golden yellow.

Here are some more examples of key differences:

Life in England & Worship

- Pilgrims rejected the Church of England. They saw it as so corrupt they needed to separate to create their own way of worship. For their beliefs, they were imprisoned, executed and much of their property was confiscated leaving most impoverished.
- Puritans thought the Church of England had some bad practices that could be corrected by working within the system. Generally, they were not persecuted so they retained their money and property.
- Pilgrims believed it was up to the individual to be righteous with God.
- Puritans believed it was up to the government to enforce religious rules on everyone.

Coming to America

- One ship, the Mayflower, brought 102 Pilgrims to America in 1620 where they settled in Plimouth. Most could not afford passage to the New World. They spent years laboring to pay back those who financed their voyage.
- About 1,000 Puritans came to America in 1630 on 17 ships. They established the Massachusetts Bay Colony in the Boston area which was the most financially successful of all New England colonies.

Crime and Punishment

- The Pilgrims understood the need for discipline. Pilgrim Stephen Hopkins (arguably America’s first bartender) was fined for over-charging for alcohol and over-serving some of his customers. Slanderers were sent to the stocks. However, there was only one instance of capital punishment. In 1630, John Billington was tried and convicted of murdering a fellow colonist. In what Governor Bradford called, “a matter of great sadness,” Billington was hung.
- The Puritans are infamous for punishing nonconformists. North of Boston, the village of Salem became well-known for its terrible witch trials. About 200 were accused, including a four-year-old girl. Of these, 19 were hung, 1 was tortured to death and 5 died in prison. Manuscripts of the time show general approval of these actions. In 1957, the General Court of Massachusetts issued an apology to the victims.

Tolerance

- Pilgrims generally cooperated with Native Americans. They made a treaty with the Wampanoag that lasted longer than any other treaty in American history. Native Americans slept in Pilgrim homes while visiting Plimoth. At the first Thanksgiving, Native Americans and colonists shared food and enjoyed activities together.
- Puritans didn’t respect those who did not share their beliefs. They banned Quakers and other free thinkers and in 1636 they started a war against the Pequot tribe. In 1675, they forced Christian Native Americans onto three vessels in the Charles River and transported them to islands in the harbor.

All of us should be cautious when looking at people of another time through our modern America lens. However, given these examples, there are even more reasons to understand why Pilgrim descendants are pleased to have roots in Plimouth.

BEWARE OF SCAMS!

Some of our Mayflower cousins have received emails asking for money or gift cards. Usually, these bogus emails falsely appear to come from our Nebraska Society. Sadly, these scams are becoming more sophisticated. I assume Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being employed to make the emails “sound” authentic. They sometimes include the names of some of our members and appear to be signed by me, your governor.

While non-profits such as our Nebraska Mayflower Society rely on the generosity of our members, we don’t want to see scammers take advantage of your kindness. If you have any questions about the legitimacy of a request for a donation or asking for anything from you for the Nebraska Society, please don’t hesitate to contact me before responding. Stay safe. — Kathryn Morrissey

Treasurer's Report - Balance Sheet and Income Statement

Bob Harvey

	Sep 30, 23	Feb 28, 23
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
10000 · Cash		
10001 · UBT Checking	13,850.81	15,055.01
10002 · PayPal	0.00	2,167.83
Total 10000 · Cash	13,850.81	17,222.84
Total Checking/Savings	13,850.81	17,222.84
Accounts Receivable		
11000 · Membership Dues Receivable	785.00	4,110.00
Total Accounts Receivable	785.00	4,110.00
Other Current Assets		
12000 · Prepaid Application Fees	1,000.00	875.00
13000 · Undeposited Funds	100.00	2,000.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,100.00	2,875.00
Total Current Assets	15,735.81	24,207.84
Other Assets		
18000 · Marketable Securities		
18001 · Principal Balance	21,330.53	20,261.84
18002 · Unrealized Gain (Loss)	(2,729.30)	(2,361.38)
Total 18000 · Marketable Securities	18,601.23	17,900.46
Total Other Assets	18,601.23	17,900.46
TOTAL ASSETS	34,337.04	42,108.30
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
32000 · Retained Earnings	36,590.65	34,679.96
32100 · AOCI	(2,729.30)	(1,321.77)
Net Income	475.69	8,750.11
Total Equity	34,337.04	42,108.30
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	34,337.04	42,108.30

	Mar - Sep 23	Oct '22 - Sep 23
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
40000 · Membership Dues	3,195.00	8,540.00
41000 · Application Fees	2,030.00	4,810.00
42000 · Individual Contributions	1,226.65	3,255.40
43000 · Interest Income	43.33	75.67
43100 · Investment Income	197.61	197.61
44000 · Miscellaneous Income		
44001 · Centennial Anniversary Income	420.00	1,750.00
Total 44000 · Miscellaneous Income	420.00	1,750.00
45000 · Meals	780.00	2,810.00
46000 · Reinstatement & Transfer Fees	15.00	45.00
Total Income	7,907.59	21,483.68
Gross Profit	7,907.59	21,483.68
Expense		
50000 · GSMD Assessment	9,065.00	9,065.00
51000 · Banking Fees	82.73	307.06
52000 · Application Expense	1,375.00	4,750.00
53000 · Newsletter Expense	246.19	456.22
54000 · Meetings Expense	537.94	2,393.57
55000 · Miscellaneous Expense		
55001 · Centennial Anniversary Expense	289.24	2,030.89
55000 · Miscellaneous Expense - Other	0.00	239.05
Total 55000 · Miscellaneous Expense	289.24	2,269.94
56000 · Scholarship Expense	1,620.00	1,620.00
57000 · Website Expense	0.00	44.99
58000 · Supplies Expense	45.91	171.21
Total Expense	13,262.01	21,077.99
Net Ordinary Income	(5,354.42)	405.69
Net Income	(5,354.42)	405.69

Donation Report

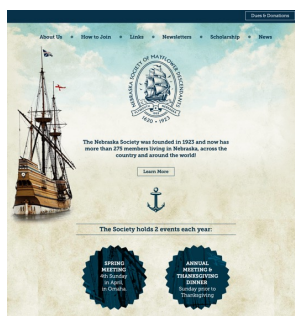
Listed below are all donations received since the last report in the Spring 2023 Pilgrim News. Please direct questions to NSMD Treasurer Bob Harvey (nsmdtreasurer@gmail.com)

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 continuing financial challenge: to pay national dues each year for our life members. You can see in Treasurer's Report on the previous page that the GSMD Assessment was \$9,065 last year and our income from Memberships fees was \$8,540. While the Nebraska Society has modified how it handles investments, 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 Address	Memo	Class	Paid Amount
Bonnie Kolowski	General Donation	Program	500.00
Kathryn Morrissey	Meeting & Newsletter Supplies	Program	146.65
Anonymous	Life Member Donation	Program	100.00
Florance Davis	Life Member Donation	Program	100.00
Kent Meridith	Life Member Donation	Program	100.00
David Peters	Life Member Donation	Program	50.00
Todd Peters	Life Member Donation	Program	50.00
Gretchen Harvey	General Donation	Program	45.00
Melinda Peters	Life member Donation	Program	45.00
William Laughlin	Life Member Donation	Program	35.00
Heather McLaughlin	Life Member Donation	Program	35.00
Susan Rice	Pin	Program	10.00
Mary Hanke	General Donation	Program	5.00
Susan Rice	General Donation	Program	5.00
			1,226.65
			<u>1,226.65</u>

Visit NebraskaMayflower.org



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

Annual Dues

Annual Members were sent dues notices in February. Annual Dues are \$45. Thanks to everyone who has paid their 2023 dues.

If you haven't paid yet, please pay now, either at our website or by sending a check, payable to the Nebraska Society of Mayflower Descendants, to **Bob Harvey, 17503 V St, Omaha, NE 68135**. Annual members who have not paid 2023 dues by Dec. 15 will be dropped from membership

Questions about dues? Please contact our Treasurer, Bob Harvey, at nsmdtreasurer@gmail.com



Pilgrim News

8704 Douglas St
Omaha, NE 68114-4035

Lincoln Lancaster County Genealogical Society

Another Nebraska genealogical-related society is the **Lincoln Lancaster County Genealogy Society (LLCGS)**. They have a variety of regular meetings, as described at the LLCGS website: <https://llcgs.info>

They have a library, including many books related to the Mayflower and early settlers to the New England area. The library in the AAA Building, 2900 East O Street, Lower Level Suite 2, and is open **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**. It is also possible to make appointments. The library catalog is online, as part of the LLCGS website. Title, author, subject and call number searching are currently available. They have tried to include the county name in many subject headings; just enter the name of the county you are interested in. If you have questions or wish to make an appointment, contact the LLCGS Library Committee at library@llcgs.info or call 531-249-5939 and leave a message.

Also, for a fee, LLCGS volunteers can provide copies of Lancaster County obituaries, early marriage records, and naturalization papers.

