

Tarheel Pilgrim

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of North Carolina

Governor's Remarks

Greetings to all our North Carolina Mayflower Members and Cousins,

This past year has been unusual and many of us have not been able to get together for Mayflower Colony meetings. Meetings online have helped but not all can participate. We are looking ahead to some Zoom meetings with special speakers who will share facets of the Pilgrims history.

To introduce myself, my name is Jill Sheridan Chapman. I had no idea there was a Mayflower ancestor in my family. I encourage everyone to look deep. The Lineage Match helped a lot. My ancestors are Elder William and Mary Brewster. I have been a member for over 10 years and was the Western Colony Governor for 6 years. A month ago, I received a surprise. My supplemental application for Stephen Hopkins was approved in record time!

My husband, Larry, and I live near Brevard and have attended the triannual meeting in Plymouth in 2014 and 2017. We had plans to attend the 400th events in Plymouth but it was cancelled. We attended the General Board of Assistants (GBOA) meeting in Denver in 2019 and look forward to the 2021 meetings in Plymouth. As your Deputy Governor General (DGG), I will be attending meetings on the national level and will bring back any news and share with the BOA and our members. Martha D'Alessandro will be attending also as Assistant Governor (AG).

We typically have two Board meetings a year. These are the Board of Assistants (BOA) meetings. One is held in May and one during our annual meeting in November. We are scheduled to have the first one this year on Saturday, May 1, 2021 at the High Point Country Club. More information on that event later.

Our annual state meeting will be held in Charlotte on November 5-6, 2021 and Charlotte Colony Governor Courtney Layne has plans for this event. We get to meet new members, meet our scholarship winner and renew acquaintances.

Some goals to look forward to are increasing membership, celebrating the 400th anniversary of our Thanksgiving gathering in Plymouth and adding to our scope of knowledge of these brave people who came so far to start a new life. DNA is also an interesting tool. Another focus

Winter/Spring 2021

KEY OFFICERS

Jill Chapman GOVERNOR

Cheryl Vislay DEPUTY GOVERNOR

Jill Chapman DEPUTY GOVERNOR GENERAL

> Martha D'Alessandro ASSISTANT GOVERNOR

Keith Karlsson RECORDING SECRETARY

W. Becket Soule CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

> Nancy Saul TREASURER

William Ewalt COUNSELOR

Bishop Graham Rights ELDER

> Laurel Siviglia CAPTAIN

Dr. Ashley Lloyd SURGEON

is our scholarship program. Jewel Parker was the recipient of the scholarship in 2017 and has kept in touch and now has her master's degree and has published numerous articles on the role of women in Colonial times. The scholarship is funded through the sale of our NC pins, our Silver Medallions and donations. You can order these from our website or listings in the newsletter.

We are considering forming a Junior membership program as we have numerous inquiries about young people becoming involved.

I have been compiling newspaper articles on the beginning and first years of the Mayflower Society in North Carolina. It began in Asheville in 1924 so the 100th anniversary will be coming up in 3 more years. Let's celebrate then!

My sincere thanks to our North Carolina Board of Assistants members who provide the valuable leadership, member assistance and overall support to our Society. Each BOA member has a vital role and responsibility that contributes to the smooth operation and growth of our Society. Their dedication and commitments are key to our growth and success by ensuring we are a vibrant society dedicated to supporting our members and working with potential new members to join and become involved.

I thank each of you very much for all you do for our society and I am proud to work with you.

Welcome to all the new members in 2020! Congratulations on completing the necessary paperwork to become members. The history of Plymouth Colony is so interesting.

Additionally, A key program we have is to award a scholarship to a deserving graduate student interested in pursuing studies in History.

We can look forward to 2021 and make a point to ENJOY our Society of Mayflower Descendants in North Carolina.

Best regards, Jill S. Chapman Governor, DDG, SMDNC



Chairman of the Transylvania County Commissioners, Mike Hawkins, presents a proclamation of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Mayflower to NC Deputy Governor, Jill S. Chapman, of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.



NC State Senator Chuck Edwards and State Representative Jake Johnson present Deputy Governor, Jill S. Chapman, with a certificate from the House and Senate of the State of North Carolina in recognition of the 400th Anniversary of the Mayflower Landing in Plvmouth. MA.

Webinar with Governor General Hurt January 19, 2021

This evening Governor General Jane Hurt gave a State of the Society webinar. It covered all facets of the Mayflower Society.

Annual reports are due. Becket Soule had ours done right away. I believe we were the first member society to have completed that report. Thank you to Rev. Becket Soule!

Mark your calendar for September 9-11, 2021 which will be the GBOA meeting in Plymouth. We will be celebrating the 400th Thanksgiving event. Thursday, September 9th will be Education Day. Friday, September 10th will be the GBOA meeting and on Saturday there will be tours during the day and in the evening, there will be a banquet at Plimoth Patuxet. Tours will be organized at the later date. The Massachusetts Society is hosting the GBOA event. Sign up will begin on March 1st. Registration will be \$65. On July 18th late registration will be \$85. GBOA Luncheon on Friday is \$35 and the Garden reception is \$20. The banquet on Saturday night is \$125.

One can go on YouTube to the Massachusetts House Museum and Local History site and watch What is a House Museum? This is the Mayflower Society House.

The Society will have a new website by September 2021.

Please remember to donate during the Annual Appeal drive and maybe join the 1620 Club.

A transfer of deeds is in progress for the Corn Hill property on Cape Cod.

A special thank you to Susan Roser who has been the Mayflower Quarterly Magazine editor from 2016 to 2020. Andrew Whipple is the new editor. Becket Soule is on the MQM Review Committee.

A Zoom meeting was held with the Executive board on January 11th due to water damage issues at the Society House. Historic wallpaper and flooring were damaged as well as other water issues due to copper pipes and knob and tube wiring. There are issues with the heating and air conditioning also. The insurance deductible was \$100,000. Because of a special wireless shutoff system (for plumbing only) being installed in the house, the deductible was reduced to \$50,000.

Another meeting was held on Jan. 13th with Elder General Thomas Pike giving the invocation. Former Governor General Judy Swan reported on the Silver Books project. Lots of updated books are coming out. Becket Soule is working on the Soule family book. Others in progress are William White, James Chilton, William Bradford, Thomas Rogers and Peter Brown. Muriel Cushing is working on a Hopkins update.

Judy Swan wants to be replaced as Chairman but will stay on as a researcher.

Because the Extended Family Societies were not able to meet in November, they will not be charged the usual annual fee in 2021.

The Meeting House will receive 1.7 million from the trust of member Janet Schiro. This will certainly help with the renovations on the Meeting House. The board will also decide on one contractor for the entire interior project. Three contractors will be considered. Cultural grants are in the works also.

Nancy Saul from North Carolina is on the Scholarship committee.

Governor General Hurt said that all applications and fees will be routed through each member society. The price for a certificate will remain \$2.50. Issues have been arising with the postal service regarding delivery in a timely manner. She reported that 706 applications were received in one month. This is a very significant increase, and she thanks the member society Historians and Midge Hurtuk and team. The total for 2019 was 2813 applications, while the 2020 total was 4091. We send a special thank you to Cheryl Vislay and her team who have done a great job this year. GSMD is hiring remote workers as verifiers.

Be sure to look at the new Shop site. It is reported that sales reached a new high of \$51,000.

The next GBOA webinar meeting will be in April 2021.

This is the latest from Governor General Hurt.

Best regards, Jill S. Chapman NC Governor DDG

North Carolina Society's Webpage

We invite you to look there for upcoming events, all newsletters, listing of officers, a roster of members, history of our society and much more. The website is located at http://www.mayflowernc.org

Facebook

Please visit our newly created FACEBOOK Page, "Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of North Carolina." Kudos to our cousin John Harman, Jr, for the creation. Please feel free to visit and add content.

Tar Heel Pilgrim

Editor's note: Do you have an ancestors' sketch you would like to share, interesting Mayflower history, news in your colony or 400th Anniversary Events being planned? Please feel free to share, next issue - Summer/Fall is being planned for August 2021. Also, an emailed version is emailed to all members with an email address. If you want to get the emailed version, please pass along your email address.

Editor - Grant Mark Peterson 105 Hardaway Court Cary, NC 27513 grant.mark.peterson@gmail.com 919-271-3324

Necrology

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered, accept our prayers on behalf of the Pilgrim servants departed, and grant them entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints. Amen

Alexander Woollcott 12/12/2019 Sylvia Corey 11/9/20

New Members -The North Carolina Society is pleased to welcome sixteen new members:

Dues are now \$50 and the application fee is \$175- so the Preliminary form now costs a total of \$225 (includes current years dues and application fee) effective August 1, 2020.

New Members						
2168	98102	Elaine Farnsworth	СН	Stephen Hopkins	Regular	7-Aug-20
2169	98103	George Thomas Smith III	CE	John Alden	Regular	7-Aug-20
2170	98162	William Edward Smith	CE	John Alden	Regular	14-Aug-20
2171	98272	Jennette Hartshorn (Campbell) Skinner	CE	Howland	Regular	25-Aug-20
2172	98273	Sara Elizabeth Truelove	CE	Mullins	Regular	25-Aug-20
2173	98347	Jennifer Ann Chapman	WE	William Brewster	Regular	1-Sep-20
2174	98447	Lowell R. Mason	SE	Howland	Regular	11-Sep-20
2176	98857	Christy Ann (Gehring) Faulkner	PD	Warren	Regular	30-Oct-20
2178	98977	Michael Edward Bramlet	СН	James Chilton	Regular	13-Nov-20
2179	98978	Ann Bradley (Carver) Del Vecchio	СН	John Alden	Regular	13-Nov-20
2180	98979	Douglass Wayne Wheeler	СН	Myles Standish	Regular	13-Nov-20
2181	99010	Alison Marie (Douglass) Bereuter	WE	Warren	Regular	17-Nov-20
2182	99011	Leigh Ann (Douglass) Renshaw	WE	Warren	Regular	17-Nov-20
2183	99130	Nancy Ann (Myers) Thompson	СН	Soule	Regular	8-Dec-20
2184	99131	Karen Wolcott	СН	Brewster	Regular	8-Dec-20
2185	99166	Mary Louise (Greives) Barron	СН	Howland	Regular	11-Dec-20

Transfers

2175	79848	Susan Stout-Pierce	NE	Alden	Regular	Transfer 10/29/20
2177	73007	"Ed" Garland Edgar Conley Jr.	СН	Stephen Hopkins	Regular	Transfer 11-9-20

Supplementals

-							
	2149	96870	Karina Jean (Logan) Stephenson	СН	Stephen Hopkins	Regular	3-Mar-20
	1739	76343	Martha Alling D'Alessandro	CE	John Tilley	Regular	28-Aug-20
	1739	76343	Martha Alling D'Alessandro	CE	Elizabeth Tilley	Regular	11-Sep-20
	1739	76343	Martha Alling D'Alessandro	CE	Joan Hurst	Regular	11-Sep-20
						Life	
	1839	82169	Jill Sheridan Chapman	WE	Stephen Hopkins	Member	24-Nov-20
	2115	94875	Debra Yonkers	СН	Elizabeth Tilley	Regular	22-Dec-20

GSMD INSIGNIA

Do you have questions about the GSMD Insignia? Many new and existing members do. This excerpt from the GSMD website may answer your question. You can go to the GSMD website to find out more under the "shop" tab.

The authority is the GSMD Insignia Chair. Jane will be happy to assist you with questions or sales. Enjoy your GSMD insignia and wear it with pride!

Jane D. Schleinzer, GSMD Member at Large GSMD Insignia Chair 630-380-2089 Email: Insignia@TheMayflowerSociety.org

General Guidelines

General Society of Mayflower Descendant members and officers may wear breast medals and officer neck medallions.

Breast medals include the Member medal, Member Society/Colony Officer medal, Past Governor medal, Past Colony/Lt. Governor medal, GSMD National Officer medal, Miniature Member medal, Junior Member medal, and former GSMD National Officer medal.

Curved bars, pinned to the ribbon on the medal, are not interchangeable between these medals as there are differences in the purposes for the medals. Curved bars are engraved with the names of ancestors, names of colonies and Member Society and National office titles. Members generally wear three or fewer breast medals displaying curved bars.

• Member medals come with a straight gold top bar engraved with the member's society name. Curved ancestor bars may be attached below on the ribbon.

• Member Society/Colony Officer medals come with a straight gold top bar engraved with the members society name. Title bars for offices held, past or present, are attached on the ribbon below the top bar, next a colony name bar and title bars for colony offices held below the colony name bar.

• GSMD National Officer medals come with a straight gold top bar engraved GSMD. Title bars for Deputy Governor General, Assistant General, as well as GSMD Chair and Committee member bars should be attached below on the ribbon.

Members may wear a maximum of three breast medals. The GSMD National Officer medal with the highest office held should be on the right, as viewed by another person. In the middle, the Member Society/Colony Officer medal, Past Governor medal or Past Colony Governor medal and to the left, closest to the heart, the Member medal. Whether wearing one, two, or three medals, all should be in a straight row and balanced over the heart.

Curved bars are not interchangeable between medals and should only be attached to the medals indicated above. Ancestor bars are placed on Member medals. Member Society title bars are placed on Member Society/Colony Officer medals and GSMD National title bars are placed on National GSMD medals.

There are additional pins and Mayflower related items for sale in the GSMD shop found on the GSMD website. **SMDNC** also has a Member Society pin for NC and Silver Medallions for purchase. More information on these two NC items is located on the SMDNC website.

2020 SMDNC Martha Ellen Ward Educational Scholarship

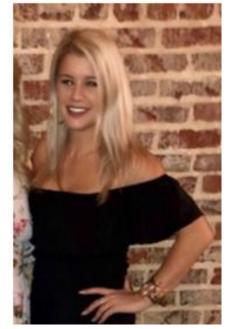
Please see the lovely letter from our scholarship winner!

As this year comes to an end, I have been reflecting on the many things I have to be grateful for. This year has come with unprecedented obstacles, but the support I received from the Society of Mayflower Descendants has helped me get through many of them. One area of my life that has been greatly unburdened of worry is related to my financial situation. With the current pandemic, it has been near impossible to find a job where I felt safe working, that matches

my qualifications, or both. With the generous scholarship provided to me by the Society of Mayflower Descendants, I have been able to focus on my first semester of graduate school and not worry about paying my rent, buying groceries, or taking care of my bills. As we continue to learn about the virus and take increasingly preventative measures to keep each other safe, I have become more comfortable with job searching and hope to secure something soon. With all of the challenges I have faced this semester, it would have been so much more taxing on my spirit if I had to worry about school expenses and everyday essential needs. Thank you again for your generosity! Please pass on my gratitude to the members of the Mayflower Society who have made this possible for me.

I wanted to also thank you for the article you sent to me earlier this semester. It was very engaging and thought provoking. I also appreciate the email you recently sent with the copy of your recent meeting minutes where I was introduced. They were truly a joy to receive.

I hope 2021 brings us all new opportunities and an abundance of joy. I wish you all a happy holiday season.



Best wishes & with much appreciation,

Amanda Roberts

Now Open! The 2021 Scholarship Application is Available!

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) Scholarship Program is offering scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are Mayflower descendants and will be attending a four-year college or university or two-year community college.

In the spirit of the Mayflower settlers seeking to better themselves by moving to a new and uncharted world, special consideration will be given to applicants who have demonstrated a commitment to bettering themselves.

Application Deadline for the 2021 GSMD Scholarship Program is March 15, 2021. There is an ancestry requirement for an applicant to be considered for a Mayflower Scholarship: The Application Form must include <u>a valid GSMD membership</u> <u>number and State Membership Number</u> as members in good standing for either the applicant or for a parent, grandparent, or great grandparent of the applicant.

This application process should be self-explanatory, and applicants are asked to read all instructions and follow directions carefully. The Scholarship Committee looks forward to reviewing candidates and announcing this year's Scholarship recipients. https://www.themayflowersociety.org/blog/scholarships

The Tar Heel Pilgrim Page 8 North Carolina Society Merchandise Medallion 400th Anniversary .999 Pure Silver Medallions Commemorating the 1620 Pilgrims landing at Plymouth, MA The North Carolina Society has minted a 1 Troy Ounce - Proof Quality commemorative 400th Anniversary .999 Pure Silver Medallion commemorating the 1620 Pilgrims Landing at Plymouth Rock. 1 Troy Ounce - Proof Quality Case- \$85.00 each Encapsulated - \$75.00 each Sterling Silver Bezel (to create a necklace) \$25.00 each All proceeds will benefit the SMDNC Annual Scholarship progr cepting Cash, Personal Checks or Credit Card (+3.5% convenience Medallion Order Form: Medallion in Presentation Case- \$85.00 each X____\$____ X____\$____ Encapsulated Medallion - \$75.00 each Sterling Silver Bezel - \$25.00 each (to create a necklace) Shipping: \$5.00 per Medallion X_____ \$___ \$ Sub Total: Credit Card Surcharge (3.5% of Subtotal) Grand Total Make Checks Payable to SMDNC All proceeds will benefit the SMDNC Annual Scholarship program Mail to: Michael C. Keleher 42 West Road, Leicester, NC 28748 Name: Full Address: Phone Number: Email: Credit Card info: _____

Pin

Our new North Carolina society lapel pin is available. Attaches by clutch back pins.



Mail to: Martha D'Alessandro 8212 Lloyd Allyns Way Raleigh, NC 27615-4898 mdgemjunky@gmail.com 919-349-9981

All sales proceeds from our Pins and Medallions go to the SMDNC Martha Ellen Ward Educational Scholarship Program for Graduate Students enrolled in a College or University within the State of North Carolina.

Colony News

The Western Colony- Western Colony member, Rev. Becket Soule, told the Mayflower Story at four separate organizations' meetings in the eastern part of our state last spring. Our plan for Governor Cooper to Proclaim the 400th Anniversary of the Mayflower's arrival was cancelled due to the pandemic.

Members Deborah Strum and her sister, Susan Brown completed their project to supply 11 libraries in Western North Carolina with three books each of which told stories of our ancestors. Our May meeting was canceled due to governmental restriction of group gatherings. No November meeting was scheduled due to the pandemic.



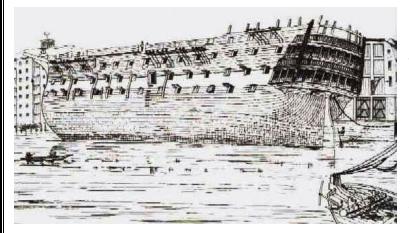
What happened to the Mayflower?

By Tarheel Pilgrim editor Grant Peterson

Christopher Jones, the *Mayflower* captain, had spent a hard winter onboard the ship with the pilgrims in Plymouth harbor before returning to England on April 5, 1621.

Having fulfilled his contract with the Pilgrims, Christopher Jones took the ship out on a trading voyage to Rochelle, France, in October 1621. He picked up a cargo of Bay salt, a product that Rochelle has been a famous producer of since Roman times and did a lively export business with this commodity. This appears to be his last voyage.

Weakened by the rigors of the voyage to the new world and the winter he and his crew spent there, killing half his crew, a year after returning to England he fell ill and died on 4 March 1622 at age 52. He was buried on 5 March in the churchyard of St. Mary's of Rotherhithe. His grave was no doubt initially marked, but its location was lost during a renovation of the building and grounds in 1715. In 1995, a memorial to Jones was erected at the church and another in 2004. I have visited this church and seen the memorial in the churchyard.



Drawing of the HMS Temeraire being broken up at Rotherhithe in 1838

For the next two years, the *Mayflower* lay at her berth in Rotherhithe, not far from Jones' grave at St. Mary's. Rotherhithe, along the Thames River, has had a long maritime history and was home to shipyards from the 16th century until the early 20th century.

In May of 1624, the ship was appraised for the purpose of probate and was described by the appraisers as being "*in ruinis*." Three of the *Mayflower*'s owners applied to the Admiralty court for an appraisal of the ship. One of these applicants was Jones' widow Mrs. Josian (Joan) Jones. This appraisal probably was made to determine the valuation of the ship for the purpose of

settling the estate of its late master. The appraisal was made by four mariners and shipwrights. As a result, it is believed that the *Mayflower* was eventually broken up and sold off as scrap with a scrap value of one hundred and twenty-eight pounds, eight shillings, and fourpence for its wood, anchors, sails and galley equipment.

The need to preserve the Mayflower as something of historical importance would be first on our minds but, clearly not evident to the English at that time. What finally became of the *Mayflower* is an unsettled issue. Charles Edward Banks, an English historian of the Pilgrim ship, claims that the ship was finally broken up, with her timbers used in the construction of a barn at Jordan's village in Buckinghamshire. Tradition claims that this barn still exists as the Mayflower Barn, located within the grounds of Old Jordans in South Buckinghamshire. In 1624, Thomas Russell supposedly added to part of a farmhouse already there with timbers from a ship, believed to be from the Pilgrim ship *Mayflower*, bought from a shipbreaker's yard in Rotherhithe.

Fast forward to the present day, a recent article in the Wall Street Journal, dated July 31, 2019, titled, "An English Estate with an American Backstory Embarks on a New Journey," tells of the present owner of a property being interrupted by knocks on his door by sightseers, coming to Mr. Knapfield's house located 25 miles northwest of London, not to see his house but a glimpse at



American history - looking for the Mayflower Barn, widely believed to have been built by its timbers. The Knapfield's property, Old Jordans, is a former farmhouse once owned by the Quaker church for over 400 years and next to the barn is one of the oldest Ouaker cemeteries in Britain and the burial site of William Penn, the wealthy Quaker who established Pennsylvania. The current owner is listing the site for \$18.44 million includes a ten-bedroom house with 14,616 square feet and a double height basement for the owner's collection of over 40 classic and

vintage racing cars lowered to the basement by a car elevator. The Mayflower Barn also is used for storage of some of these vehicles. You can see in the photo the magnificent beams, a timber door heavily engraved with floral motifs originally discovered in the main house, is leaning against the back wall and is reputed to have once hung in the captains' cabin on the Mayflower. The owner is listing the place for sale as he has recently constructed a new residence which can store his entire 40 car collection.



Contact Information for North Carolina Society Board of Assistants/Colony Governors

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Cheryl Vislay, Deputy Governor cvislay@earthlink.net 704-545-7674

Bishop Graham Rights, Elder 553 Steeple View Court Winston Salem, NC 27101-5850

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W. Becket Soule, Corresponding Secy St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church P.O. Box 1359 Maggie Valley, NC 28751 wbsoule1620@gmail.com 828-929-0343

> Nancy Saul, Treasurer 2401 Thurrock Drive Apex, NC 27539-8719 ngsaul@aol.com, 919-629-7281

Northeast Colony: Open

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The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of North Carolina

The North Carolina Society of Mayflower Descendants received its charter from the General Society of Mayflower Descendants at the 10th triennial convention held at Plymouth, Massachusetts on September 2, 1924. North Carolina was the 19th chartered and the only state chartered south of the District of Columbia. The petition for the charter was signed by 22 residents of North Carolina who were Society members in other states.

Addison Pierce Monroe, of Providence, Rhode Island was Governor General of the General Society and was a frequent visitor to Asheville, North Carolina. While in Asheville he helped local organizers to take the proper steps to form a Society in North Carolina. Burnham Standish Colburn, of Baltimore, who joined the Biltmore Forest Company in 1920 as Vice President and bought a (second) home in Biltmore Forest. With the assistance of Macon Rush "Mike" Dunnagan, Burnham Standish Colburn of members of several state societies, who lived in North Carolina, to sign the petition for the charter.

Signers of The Petition to Establish the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of North Carolina

From Baltimore:	Burnham Standish Colburn William Cullen Colburn (Burnham's son) Chester Pierce Monroe (also had a home in Ashville) James G. K. McClure, Jr. Luria Lee Lyons Mrs. T. D. Lovell	NC # 1 GS # 44 NC # 20 DS # 100 NC #3 GS # 139 NC #12 GS # 260 NC #13 GS # 924
From Asheville:	Mrs. John Grier Baird Lee A. Folger Macon Rush Dunnagan	NC #4 GS # 375 NC #5 GS # 55 NC #2 GS # 756
From Charlotte:	Leonard Tufts	NC #7 GS #1679
From Pinehurst:	Mrs. Edward Cyrus Winslow	NC #6 GS # 714
From Tarboro:	Dr. Elmer S. Waring	
From Raleigh:	Benjamin Franklin Folger	
From Dodson:	Mrs. Roderick Belton John	NC #8 GS # 506
From Fayetteville:	Mrs. Frank P. Hall	NC #9 GS # 1478
From Belmont:	Miss Mary Wilson Pruett	NC #10 GS # 78
From Lenoir:	Horace Waldo Porter	NC #11 GS # 914
From Greensboro:	Claude Remulus Dunnagan	NC #15 GS # 757
From Winston-Salem:	Mrs. Franklin L. Townsend	NC #19 GS # 435
From Durham: From West Durham:	Edward K. Powe, Jr. Miss Laura Delphina Worth	NC #17 GS # 57
From Guilford College:	Mrs. Maude D. Shackleford	NC #18 GS # 900

The First and Other Early Meetings of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of North Carolina

The First Meeting of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of North Carolina was held at the home of Burnham Standish Colburn in Biltmore Forest on November 22, 1924, with 14 of the original applicants present. At the meeting the following initial officers were elected:

Burnham Standish Colburn (Asheville) Governor Leonard Tufts (Pinehurst) Deputy Governor Chester Pierce Monroe (Asheville) Secretary - Treasurer Macon Rush Dunnagan (Charlotte) Historian James G.K. McClure, Jr. (Asheville) Elder Board of Assistants: Lee A. Folger (Charlotte) Mrs. James Grier Baird (Charlotte) Mrs. T.D. Rhodes (Asheville) L.Lyons Lee (Asheville) James K. Powe (Durham)

It should be noted that Macon Rush "Mike" Dunnagan, the new Society's Historian, was on the staff of the Asheville Citizens-Times, and as a result numerous articles were published by the paper for many years. Articles published by the Asheville Citizens-Times provided a substantial amount of information related to the history of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of North Carolina.

The Second Annual Meeting was held at the George Vanderbilt Hotel in Asheville on November 28, 1925. The keynote speaker was Harold G. Murray, of New York City and Secretary General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Mr. Murray praised the North Carolina Society as one of the most successful societies after one year. In its first year the Society grew from 21 charter members to 50 members. Burnham Standish Colburn, a banker in Asheville, was unanimously re-elected Governor at the business session preceding the dinner.

The Fifth Annual Meeting met at the Grove Park in on December 1, 1928. Howard Bement, the headmaster of the Asheville School for Boys was the principal speaker. Burnham Standish Colburn was re-elected Governor. The Society had 134 members.

The Seventh Annual meeting was held on November 29, 1930. Burnham Standish Colburn was re-elected Governor.

The Eighth Annual Meeting was held at the George Vanderbilt Hotel on November 21, 1931. Burnham Standish Colburn was again elected Governor. The Mayflower Cup was presented to members and guests to be presented to the State Literary and Historical association. The Mayflower Cup replaced the Patterson Memorial Cup that was discontinued several years earlier. The Mayflower Cup was intended to stimulate literary production and interest in the state of North Carolina.

The Ninth Annual meeting was held at the George Vanderbilt Hotel on November 19, 1932. Burnham Standish Colburn was elected Governor and Harry W. Plummer was elected Deputy Governor. Mr. Colburn was visiting his daughter in Holland, so Mr. Plummer presided over the meeting. Kingsland Van Winkle, Society Counselor, addressed and updated the members and guests about the Mayflower Cup that was presented to the State Literary and Historical association as a memorial of the landing of the Pilgrims in Plymouth in 1620. The large silver cup, designed by William W. Dodge of Biltmore Forest, was presented to the historical association to stimulate interest in the state of literature. The Mayflower cup is housed in the Hall of History in Raleigh. Each year a replica of the cup would be presented to a North Carolina author who is judged to publish an outstanding original work. The Society had 144 members.

The Tenth Annual Meeting was held on November 18, 1933 at the George Vanderbilt Hotel. Harry W. Plummer was elected Governor of the Society succeeding Burnham Standish Colburn, who has served as Governor since the Society's founding. Mr. Plummer was a civil engineer and former mayor of Asheville. He congratulated Burnham Standish Colburn for being elected Governor - General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants at the triennial Congress held in September 1933. Kingsland Van Winkle was elected Deputy Governor and Sam J. Ervin, Jr. was elected Counselor during the business meeting.

The Formation of Colonies in North Carolina

In 1943, the Asheville Colony, the first colony in the state, was established at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Bynum, of Macon Avenue in Asheville according to an article published by the Asheville-Citizens Times on October 27, 1974 at the celebration of the Society's 50th Anniversary. Unfortunately, there were no minutes or other information about the Asheville Colony's first meeting. The Charlotte Colony was formed January 16, 1944. The Piedmont Colony was established October 18, 1944 and the colony's charter was granted November 2, 1974. The Central Carolina Colony was formed November 9, 1947. The October 1974 article said that other colonies followed shortly, with the last, the Northeast Colony formed in 1974. At that point, the North Carolina Society had six colonies with over 400 members.





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Contacts

Calendar of Events

- Board of Assistants Meeting, May 1, 2021, High Point, NC
- General board of Assistants Meeting, Sept 9-11, 2021, Plymouth, MA
- Annual Meeting, Nov 5-6, 2021, Charlotte, NC

