

Toledo Colony Chronicle

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio

Toledo Colony Officers Chartered June 20, 1940

Lt. Governor

Susan Fisher
517-238-5302
stfisher@dmcibb.net

Deputy Lt. Governor

Judy Rand
419-924-2613
davejudy1520@yahoo.com

Secretary

OPEN

Treasurer

Jeffrey Stoll
906-440-5088
willowcove@lighthouse.net

State Board of Assistants

OPEN

Jr. Member Chair

Open

Elder

David Martin
419-784-6376
davemartin423@frontier.com

Program Chair

Open

Compact Chair

John MacDonald
419-868-3039
jfmacedonald52@gmail.com

Board Member

Paula Niederhauser
419-836-8823
dpnieder@toast.net

Newsletter Editor

Dawn Carr
carrde@hotmail.com

2020 Committee

Mike & Christy Brewster

STEP OUT...TRY A NEW VENTURE! by Susan Fisher

Today we would say "Step out of the box." "Step out of your comfort zone." "Learn something new." "Try a new adventure." Our ancestors certainly stepped out of their comfort zone, leaving what was familiar at least twice in their moves fleeing England to go to Holland and then from Holland back to England to what is now Massachusetts. The Mayflower didn't land where they expected. Most of the travelers did not have the skills needed to be immediately comfortable in their new land. They would meet new people, who also stepped outside *their* comfort zone in befriending these invaders from the ocean.

We are going to meet someone new at our 28 March meeting. She is not dangerous. She does know a lot more about the Mayflower Society than any of us. We will befriend her, just as Toledo Colony always welcomes new guests to our meetings. She is our first speaker ever from the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, the national society, based in Massachusetts, so we might feel shy. For our new adventure, we are glad to welcome Lea Filson, Past Governor General of GSMD, to be our speaker at the upcoming meeting. She is from Ohio and had retired here with her husband a few years ago. However, now Lea is the Executive Director of See Plymouth. Come hear what Lea has to share!

I need help with this adventure. Lea will arrive at Toledo Express Airport on Friday, 27 March, and will need transportation to our venue, Ohio Living Swan Creek Retirement Center, where she will stay the night. She will also need transportation back to the airport on Saturday. If you can provide this transportation, please call me at 517-238-5302.

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Colony Meeting

When: Saturday 28 March, fellowship 11:30, meal at 12:00 noon

Where: Swan Creek Retirement Village, 5916 Cresthaven Lane, Toledo (off Rt. 20/S. Reynolds Road. Drive along the left side of the building and enter at the last portico.)

Meal Cost: \$15, buffet entrees of strip steak, turkey with gravy, salmon

Speaker: Lea Filson, past Governor General of the General Society and currently Director of See Plymouth

Reservations: Tues 24 March with Jeffrey Stoll, willowcove@lighthouse.net or 906-440-5088; address: 5510 Ottawa River Road, Toledo OH 43611

Next Colony Meeting

Summer meeting TBA

14 November at Swan Creek. Pete Wilhelm speaking on the Black Swamp.

Step Out cont'd

The next new venture is the Ohio Commemoration of the 400th Anniversary of the Arrival of the Mayflower Voyage. You received a mailed invitation to this early in January. This gathering on 1 & 2 May in Columbus will feature Joshua Taylor, nationally known genealogist, speaking on four topics relevant to all of us. As north-western Ohioans, or for whatever reason, I have noticed we Toledo Colony people like our comfort zone. We "stick close to home" as far as Mayflower is concerned. No T.C. person attends the Annual Assembly in May except one or two officers. As of the second week in February, no one from T.C. is registered for the 400th Anniversary Commemoration this May; other colonies have 10-15 people registered already -- and registration has not even opened to members of other genealogical societies and the public. Find your registration form in your invitation and mail it before the member deadline of 28 February. I will be there. Come keep me company. **Now may be the time for you to "step out of your comfort zone" and "try a new venture."**



Meeting Minutes, November 9, 2019

The Toledo Colony of the Mayflower Society met November 9, 2019 at Ohio Living Swan Creek Retirement Village in Toledo. The meeting was called to order by Lt. Governor Susan Fisher after a time of greeting and fellowship. Thirty-four members, speakers and guests were welcomed. Elder, David Martin, gave a prayer for the meeting and the meal. Lt. Governor Fisher acknowledged the features in the Fall newsletter concerning Jan Hutchison and his Branding Day and Jr. Member, Ciara Carr, third place winner of the 2019 General Society of Mayflower Descendants national scholarship and granddaughter of Paula Niederhauser. A warning was given of a scam trying to collect money for gift cards sent to officers.

Two centenarians were in attendance: Marilyn Willey, descendant of Stephen Hopkins and William Stoll, father of the colony treasurer.

After a plated meal of turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, cranberries and pumpkin pie, John MacDonald, Compact Chair, led the Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Compact. Lt. Governor Fisher mentioned that no minutes were taken at the June meeting in Tiffin at the Civil War Museum. Treasurer, Jeff Stoll, reported that in two years the Toledo Colony had collected \$249 to support Pennies for Planks to restore the Mayflower II and we initially gave a \$400 donation. The treasurer's report as of Oct. 31, 2019 showed \$5,668 in our general fund and \$3,468 in the scholarship fund and CD.

Lt. Governor Jill Parker from the Western Reserve Colony was introduced. She is the candidate for Ohio Governor in 2020. She brought greetings and news from her colony. The Mayflower Maize trivia game is nearly sold out. The Mayflower Guard has been established and a donation of \$25 will help offset the cost of travel for people in the Guard. Members donating will receive a magnetic vest pin. The individualized 2020 Anniversary ancestry boxes are still available at a cost of \$75. Jill also reminded members of the 400 points challenge by Western Reserve to become involved in the Mayflower Society mentioned in the Fall Buckeye Mayflower.



Beth Anderson from the Cincinnati Colony and co-chair of the 2020 committee brought greetings from her colony. She encouraged all members to attend the events in Columbus in May celebrating the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower landing. She advised members to make reservations early. Information is in the Fall Buckeye Mayflower and forms will be sent in January. Toledo Colony is responsible for the photographer. Don Calvin, Kristy Brewster and Mike Brewster are on the 2020 committee from the Toledo Colony.

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Meeting minutes cont'd

Judy Rand, Deputy Lt. Governor, passed around the microphone for attendees to introduce themselves and tell what generation they were from their Pilgrim ancestor. She then presented pins and an information packet to new members attending. Steve Bennett transferred into the Toledo Colony from Georgia after moving back to the Toledo area and is a descendant from Edward Doty. Debbie Walter Joslin and her daughter, Katherine Joslin Lonsbrough, are descendants of Richard Warren and live in Perrysburg. Linda Larkin, descendant of Richard Warren, lives in Perrysburg too.



New members: Steve Bennett, Debbie Joslin, Katherine Joslin Lonsbrough, and Linda Larkin

Lt. Governor Fisher introduced the speaker, Jan Kleinline, from the Columbus Colony. She graduated from Bluffton College and holds a Masters Degree from OSU in clothing and textiles. Jan taught 31 years in the Columbus area and continues to go into schools during October and November as part of an outreach program about Pilgrims and the Wampanoag. Jan has researched the Wampanoag culture and met with Wampanoag descendants. She gave a true representation 'show and tell', as she calls it, presentation. Jan showed dolls dressed in native clothes of deerskin explaining the different pieces. Native Americans killed only to eat, respecting animals and living off the land, but taking care of the land. The Wampanoag did not use the word 'No' when teaching and disciplining their children. They explained what would happen if they did a dangerous activity and let the child decide what to do. Jan explained how their homes were made, individual houses in the summer and longhouses in the winter for several families. Jan showed arrows and tools made by the Native Americans as well as different animal skins. Pictures were used as she explained the customs and daily lives of the Wampanoag. Members were encouraged to talk with Jan after the meeting and look at her display.



Steve Bennett answered the question Lt. Governor Susan Fisher had prepared to win a book entitled Mayflower by Nathaniel Philbrick. 'Who was the first governor of the Plymouth Colony?' was the question. The answer was John Carver. Steve declined the book as he already had a copy and accepted a \$5 bill.

The meeting attendees were given a few minutes to share one new thing they had learned from Jan Kleinline's presentation at their tables. Susan reminded us of the next meeting on March 28, 2020 at Swan Lake. Lea Filson, the past Governor General of GSMD, will be the speaker. Elder David Martin gave the benediction.

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Thank you!

Our speaker in March, Lea Filson, will be flying in from Massachusetts on Friday. Sarah Schnurr, Regional Director of Business Development with Swan Creek, made the generous offer to host Lea at no cost for that evening. Our venue facility has an apartment available for guests of residents. Sarah is the person our John MacDonald works through to reserve the dates, time, and menus of our meetings. Sarah said she appreciates Toledo Colony having our meetings with Swan Creek and was glad to extend the offer. Thank you, Sarah!

Long-term Planning

Each year the Ohio Society has an Annual Assembly in May. Each colony is responsible for the planning of that once every five years. In 2021 Toledo Colony will be responsible for that planning. We need to choose a venue, caterer, and speakers and/or programs. People will be needed to accept the mailed reservations from members coming from around Ohio, to make centerpieces for the tables, to write/print/mail the invitations, to greet arrivals at the hotel/venue. to arrange for a flag corps to present the colors at the main meeting, and other similar jobs. Please be thinking of how you can help.

Member Highlight: Don Calvin

Don Calvin is the 13th generation of John Howland and has been a member since April 2017.

Don has always been interested in genealogy and has done family history on his father's side. In talking with his cousin, Dessamae Curry, she said she was researching Mayflower ancestry on their maternal great grandfather Harvey J Brannan. Don would like to give the credit to his cousin Dessamae for her years of research and hard work for tracing their Mayflower ancestry.

Don's career was an IT Business Analyst for Fidelity Information Services, and worked 33 years in the IT industry. He also worked in transportation, international freight forwarding, and financial markets. He received a Bachelor's of Science degree from Bowling Green State University, and continued studies at DePaul University in Chicago. He relocated back to his hometown in northwest Ohio from Chicago four years ago.

Don enjoys genealogy, and just completed the second volume of Calvin Family History. He also enjoys travel, family and friends, home restoration, and staying active. Don is the President of the Calvin Family Reunion, now it in its 57th year.

Have You Heard . . .

You are encouraged to share your joys and concerns with other colony members, such as special anniversaries, Junior Members graduating from high school, or members visiting Plymouth/Plimoth Plantation or elsewhere. Members are encouraged to pray for each other. To have your special event included, send the information to Dawn Carr or Susan Fisher.

- ⇒ **Congratulations to Paula and Don Niederhauser on their 60th wedding anniversary, February 27**, Cards may be sent to them at 8131 Cedar Point Rd, Oregon, OH 43616. *Happy Anniversary*
- ⇒ The GSMD "**Voyage of Hope - 1620**," by Fiesta Floats, that was in the Rose Bowl Parade on New Year's Day won the "*Americana Award*" for the "**Most Outstanding Depiction of National Treasures and Traditions**". More info can be found at: <https://www.camayflower.org/>
- ⇒ Toledo Colony members have donated money for Pennies for Planks over the past several years. Thank you for helping to restore *Mayflower II*. She will be a glorious part in the celebrations during 2020 and beyond.

Two Experts on Board

State Historian Ann Gulbransen has helped each colony train a person to help preliminaries with their paper work. Toledo Colony members will remember that our expert is Heather Reichert of Green Springs, Ohio. While many of us in the colony did not have to do our own genealogical papers (except maybe the most recent generation or two) to join the Mayflower Society, Heather did all of her own paper work. She is enthusiastic about doing research and has a lot of knowledge from practical experience. She has been helping preliminaries for about two years.

Now we have another Toledo Colony member helping. Ed Trafford of Toledo has recently transferred in from Georgia (our second member in a few months to transfer in from that state). With his application, he offered to Ann to help with such work as he was the Georgia State Historian for nine years. Ann and Toledo Colony officers and Board quickly accepted Ed's offer of help. Ann is bringing him up to date on new application procedures out of Plymouth. Ed will receive his colony pin at the March meeting. Ed and Heather will split the work with preliminaries who ask for help within this colony. Thank you both, Heather and Ed!

2020 GSMD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The 2020 GSMD Scholarship Program is now open for submissions. All *Mayflower* descendants who are high school seniors are eligible to apply! Please remember to let your eligible Junior Member know, as Toledo Colony no longer sends a mailing about this scholarship to Junior Members.

New this year is an online application process.

Visit this website for details and to apply: <https://www.themayflowersociety.org/blog/scholarships>

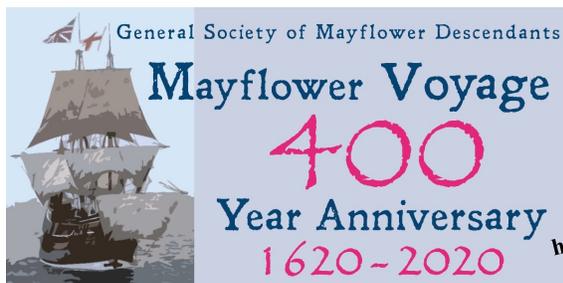
Deadline to apply is April 1, 2020.

A Ripple of Influence

For several years the Ohio Society has been donating sets of Mayflower books to libraries around Ohio to help people doing their genealogical research. You will remember that Toledo Colony has delivered a set of these books to Toledo Public Library (downtown), The R.B. Hayes Library and Museums at Spiegel Grove in Fremont, and the Williams County Library and History Center in Bryan. The Bryan Times wrote a comprehensive article about the presentation. I (Susan--Lt. Governor) asked the editor of the Coldwater, Michigan, Daily Reporter if she would run the same article. She agreed. The reasons are I live near Coldwater, several of our colony members live in Michigan within an hour of Coldwater, the publicity would help people in this area learn about the Mayflower Society, and the Coldwater paper and the Bryan paper are sister papers.

As a result of that article, the Head Librarian of the Quincy Branch of the Branch District Library became interested in the set of books. (Quincy is just 12 miles east of Coldwater. 11 N. Main Street, Quincy MI 49082) She contacted me to get information on how to purchase the entire set. Then her Board authorized her to make that purchase. Now south-central Michigan has a set of the Mayflower books, all due to the Ohio Society's generosity within Ohio.

2020 Event:
May 1 & 2
at the
Polaris Hilton
in Columbus



GSMD 2020 Events can be found at:
<https://www.themayflowersociety.org/2020-commemoration>



*Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the state of
Ohio*

- The State Society website is www.ohiomayflower.org
- The National Society website is www.TheMayflowerSociety.org. Members are urged to check this site often.
- The Mayflower Shop has new items. Shop at TheMayflowerSociety.org
- Facebook: facebook.com/TheMayflowerSociety
- Twitter: twitter.com/gsmmd
- Instagram: Instagram.com/TheMayflowerSociety
- YouTube: youtube.com/user/MayflowerSociety
- Go to www.GenealogyCenter.org to enroll to receive the very informative e-zine Genealogy Gems: News from the Allen County Public Library at Fort Wayne