FLORIDA MAYFLOWER NEWSLETTER

April 1985 SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN FLORIDA Vol. X, No. 2

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Since the Annual Meeting in Winter Park, Elsie and I have had the pleasure of attending meetings of the Elder William Brewster Colony in Miami, the Governor William Bradford Colony in St. Petersburg, the John Howland Colony in Winter Park, the Edward Fuller Colony in Winter Haven, and the Myles Standish Colony in Naples. At the Howland and Standish colonies, I had the honor of installing the new officers.

The first edition of the Florida Mayflower Newsletter was well received and it is planned that there will be three issues each year under the editorship of Dr. Alma J. Payne. I hope that those members who have items of interest will forward them to her.

The March meeting of the Board of Assistants was held in Orlando and now plans are being made for the Annual Meeting to be held in Sarasota in November. Members of the Elizabeth Tilley Colony under the leadership of Lt. Gov. Jim Peck and General Chairman June Amick are working hard to make it a memorable meeting.

Our State Historian, Betty Styer, reports that we have had a goodly number of new members and transfers from other states.

Willard I. Staples, Jr., Governor

VISITORS

Missouri State Governor, David Butler and his wife, Thelma, are winter residents of Ft. Lauderdale and frequently visit the Alden Colony

ON BOARD MAYFLOWER II

As we commemorate the voyage of our ancestors on Mayflower I, few of us are aware of the dramatic trip of Mayflower II. Our immediate past Governor, Olive Davis shares with us her memories of the portion of that voyage from Washington D.C. to Plymouth Harbor in 1958. Contemporary newspaper photographs show the Davis family: Captain George A., in command; Frank Sr.; Olive Davis; and Frank, Jr.

Mrs. Davis had to sign on as cook because Lloyds of London, the insurer, would not allow passengers on board.

"I arrived in Washington D.C. around the 1st of June to take over my duties as cook. The Galley left something to be desired - a 3 burner kerosene stove and a cast iron stove run by diesel oil. The walls were lined with knives of all sizes, along with pots and pans. The coffee pot was always kept full, day and night. The usual breakfast of bacon, eggs, cereal, and toast was served. Lunch consisted of sandwiches and salad; the evening meal offered meat, potatoes, vegetables, and dessert."

"We left for Sandwich on the Cape Cod Canal about June 23, 1958. We had a walkie-talkie between the tow boat and the Mayflower II. The trip down the Potomac to Chesapeake Bay and the Chesapeake - Delaware Canal to Cape May was beautiful- weather perfect all the way."

"We arrived at Sandwich, Cape Cod Canal around June 27, 1958. We found the facilities aboard about as bad as on Mayflower I. The Skipper of the tow boat invited everyone aboard the tug to enjoy a nice hot shower. On June

28, 1958, Capt. Irving Johnson, world traveler and owner of the sailing ship Yankee, came aboard to help bend on the sails."

"Admiral Rold U.S.C.C., the news media, my husband Frank Sr., the two boys, George and Frank, and myself set sail for Plymouth. We picked up a tug off the Gurnet and were towed up the Channel to the Mayflower II mooring in Plymouth Harbor."
Olive Davis

WHERE IS MAYFLOWER I?

According to an article, "Remembering the Mayflower," in The American Legion, November, 1982, the Mayflower still lives, as part of a barn in the tiny English village of Jordans, Buckinghamshire, about an hour from London. For over 300 years the ship has lain upside down on a brick floor, her hull forming the roof of a barn owned by the Society of Friends. The timbers are still sound. In one of the beams can be seen the 15 foot crack which William Bradford described in his Diary as being caused by a storm. The author, Henry N. Ferguson, concludes, " the Pilgrims could hardly have wished for a more fitting 'harbor' for the brave little vessel that carried them safely to America more than 350 years ago."

FROM THE STATE HISTORIAN

A bound volume, Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida, History, Vol.I, is a part of the library of the Society. This volume contains notices of meetings, newsletters, programs, reports, and other memorabilia of the Society from November, 1954 through March, 1972. Perhaps we should attempt to collect similar material for the years since 1972, for the purpose of preparing a Vol.II. If anyone has such material and would like to donate it, please send it to your State Historian: Betty M. Styer, #114, 8911 Midnight Pass Rd., Sarasota, FL 34242.

Supplemental Passports- It was agreed at the State Meeting in Winter Park in November, 1984, that Supplemental Passports would be provided similar to those used by the California Society. These have been printed and will be issued to members who have supplementals approved. They have already been sent to members who have had Supplementals approved in the past year.

Your editor noted the following in the Connecticut Newsletter:" Mrs. Betty Styer has done extensive research in England going back to the mid 1400's. She will share her work by offering a copy of six mimeographed pages for $2.00 (including postage). The copy includes charts as well as story."

NEWS FROM THE COLONIES

Francis Cooke - Jean S. Hatter and her husband are moving to Delaware. She will transfer to the Delaware Society and on March 15 the couple were to open the historic David Finney Inn, on the Green, in New Castle, Delaware.

Edward Fuller- On Thursday, November 22, 1984, The News Chief carried a full page feature concerning the local Colony in Winter Haven, featuring stories of the research of several members, and a general, authentic account of the Society. Included were excellent maps, charts, and photographs.

Myles Standish - the Colony is very proud of its retiring Lt. Governor, Cay Lanham (Mrs. Frank), who is the first woman to hold the office of Assistant Governor General of the General Sociaty. A full account of her career and achievements in Mayflower is to be found in the February Mayflower Quarterly.

John Howland - The Colony was represented in the Winter Park Christmas Parade by the Lt. Governor Harold Richardson, his wife, Sonia, and George Jaillet. They were in Pilgrim costumes and carried the American and Mayflower flags. Children watching the parade were heard to say "Those are Pilgrims" and "Those are Thanksgiving People"

WHEN YOU VISIT PLYMOUTH

In 1976 the Florida Society gave two items to the General Society: a rough copy of The Declaration of Independence and a "piece of the Mayflower." In the Florida State records it is not shown who donated the rough draft, but the piece of the Mayflower was the gift of Dr. Hamilton Holt. The wood from the ship was obtained by Dr. Holt when he visited England and is encased in a small gold watch case. If you are at the Mayflower Society House, or, as it is now called, the Mayflower Society Museum, you should see these gifts from the Florida Society.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The Historian of the Vermont Society reports that Mrs. Marie Farnham of Isaac Allerton Colony has added 11 supplementals to her original, Richard Warren, under which she joined the Vermont Society. Mrs. Farnham is a dual member whom Vermont and Florida share with pride.

Membership of the Florida Society, as of March, 1985, is 929 members, 666 Juniors.

The new Membership Directory has come off the press and is being distributed to all members. Contact your Colony Secretary.

There was a question as to whether a Junior reaching age 18 should have to pay the $25 fee for regular membership application. The Board of Assistants has voted to waive the fee.

NEW MEMBERS SINCE 19 NOVEMBER, 1984

Leon E. Lincoln, Jr. (Lt.Col.)
49733-2591; Thomas Rogers
Mrs. Edmund S. Rogers
49742 - 2592; Myles Standish
Mrs. Harry K. Powell
49813 - 2597; George Soule

Mrs. James F. McBride
49898 - 2603; Francis Cooke
Mrs. John B. Stroble
49899 - 2604; John Howland
Mrs. Frank H. Lerchen
49900 - 2605; John Howland
John Graydon Stemples
49912 - 2607; John Alden
Mrs. Francis A. Smith
49913 - 2608; William Bradford
Mrs. (col.) S.B. Byrom,III
_____ -2610; Edward Doty
Mrs. Henry Jackson Waters
_____ - 2611; William Bradford
Mrs. Louis H. Winstead
_____ - 2616; Edward Fuller
Willard Irving Staples III
_____-2617; John Howland
Mrs. Klaus Lampmann
_____ - 2618; Francis Eaton
Mrs. Frank J. Miller
_____ - 2619; John Howland
DUAL
Gilbert E. Bursley
10228 -2595; John Howland
Cheryl S. Jones
30440 - 2599; William Bradford
Evelyn L. Strayer
22559 - 2600; William Bradford
Robert Bradford Strayer, Jr.
30439 - 2601; William Bradford
William W. Strayer
30441 - 2602; William Bradford
Mrs. Bowers Fuller
44671 - 2606; John Alden
Mrs. Gavin H. Watson
38454 - 2614; John Alden, Sup
William Brewster

TRANSFERS

W. Standish Gaylord
32914 - 2593; Miles Standish
Mrs. John Joseph Lawler
47081 - 2594; John Alden

MEMBERSHIP (Transfers)

Mrs. Alton K. Marsters
45850 - 2596; Richard Warren
Mrs. James W. Goodwin
20765 - 2598; Edward Doty
Harold Hutchinson Everett
39530 - 2609; Edward Fuller

Mrs. James Tyler Brown
25879 - 2612; William Bradford
Mrs. James R. Connell
33523 - 2613 ; William Brewster
Miss Mildred Scowden
48299 - 2615; James Chilton

Supplementals

Anna Meade -approved for Isaac Allerton
Sandra Claire Bartley - approved for John Howland
Mignon McClintock Crowell- approved for Alden, Soule, Bradford
Doroth K. Shirer - approved for Isaac Allerton

SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS
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