

Florida

Florida Society of



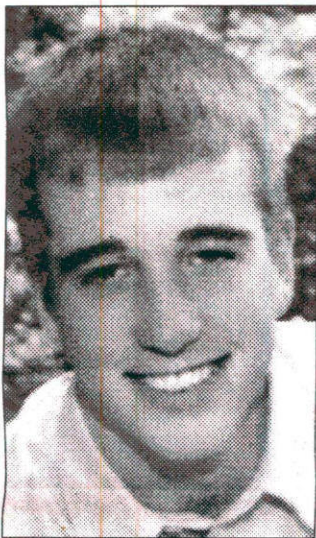
Pilgrim

Mayflower Descendants

Vol. 31, No. 2 August 2006

Louise Rumnock, Editor

2006 FSMD Scholarship Winner - Craig Warren Weeden



This year's Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants scholarship winner is Craig Warren Weeden, a 2006 graduating senior of Walpole High School in Walpole, Massachusetts. FSMD Scholarship Chairman and Deputy Governor Robert Burt made the \$1,000 scholarship award announcement at the Annual Spring Board of Assistants meeting.

Craig is the son of Warren and Cathi Lanman Weeden, and nephew of Carol Yovanovich, Past Colony Governor of the Francis Cooke Colony, and presently Director on the State Society Board of Assistants.

He had perfect attendance all through high school, was on the Honor Roll, ranking 55 in a class of 243, and had a GPA average of 3.5. Craig submitted evidence of his many acts of volunteerism along with his application.

His winning essay "*What My Mayflower Ancestry Means to Me*," (see page 6) brought out the fact that having his grandparents residing in Plymouth in a house that is on the National Registry of Historic Homes, and his frequent visits with them always kept him aware of his Pilgrim heritage. Reflecting on the history of the Pilgrims and their town, Craig realizes that in essence, these pilgrims were the creators of the foundation upon which this great country was built. Through his family ties, Craig can prove lineage to Richard Warren, Myles Standish, John Alden, Francis Cooke, Stephen Hopkins, Henry Samson, William Mullins and Edward Doty. Craig will be pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering at the University of New Hampshire's College of Engineering and Physical Science.

Remember the Date September 14-16, 2007!

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants is composed of 52 "State" Societies, including the District of Columbia and Canada. Every third year, Congress is held in Plymouth at which time a delegation from each of those 52 societies participates in the business meeting sessions. But there is other business that needs to be carried on during that three-year interlude. That is why we have a Board of Assistants (BOA).

This is composed of two delegates from each State Society. The delegates from Florida are Deputy Governor General (DGG) Margaret "Bonny" Stover and Assistant General (AG) George Allerton.

The first year after Congress, the "BOA" meeting is held in a State which has been offered and approved

to host the meeting. In September 2006, the BOA will meet in Denver, and Florida will be represented by Bonny Stover and Muriel Cushing, who is standing in for George Allerton who has a scheduling conflict.

On the second year after Congress, the BOA meeting is hosted by the home State of the Governor General. Guess what? The Governor General is Edward Delano Sullivan, a member of Florida's John Alden Colony. That means that the Florida Society will host the BOA meeting in 2007.

Bonny Stover, working closely with State Governor Fran Lopus, is chair of the planning committee. Orlando was selected as the location at our Spring Board of Assistants meeting. Heeding the request
(Continued on Page 2)

Governor's Message



It looks as if our committees are being kept busy! Junior Chair Stephanie Young has received several new applications. *Reminder: members that sponsor Junior members please keep track of them and get them to apply for regular membership before their Junior membership expires.*

State Historian Muriel

Cushing is busy submitting new applications and supplements. Education Chair Dan Dragoneti has some wonderful ideas for promoting Pilgrim history (see pg. 5). Public Relations Chair Dorothy Hornus has sent the latest Florida news into the Quarterly for the September edition and State Captain Ren Cushing is keeping both the membership list and the State website up-to-date. Deputy Governor General Bonny Stover is busy planing the 2007 Board of Assistants (BOA) meeting.

What are you doing as an individual member for your Colony? Not all of us are able to take an active part. However, all of us can talk about the Mayflower Society and encourage those that are edible to become members. It our responsibility as members of the Mayflower Society to tell the story of our ancestors.

Do you enjoy reading? I suggest reading Nathaniel Philbrick's new book titled, "*Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War.*" It is great, you will enjoy it!

Please put the following dates on your calendar:
November 17 & 18, 2006 – Annual FSMD Meeting, hosted by the James Chilton Colony at the Hampton Inn in The Villages.

November 19, 2006 – Western Caribbean cruise

April 28, 2007 – Spring Florida State Board of Assistants Meeting. A special BOA Meeting was called in April and at that meeting it was voted to continue with a Spring BOA Meeting every year. It will be a one-day event held in Lakeland at the Swan Hotel. The meeting will begin at 9:30 AM, break for lunch, and then finish early afternoon. This way most members can make it a day trip.

However, we have reserved some rooms for those that have to stay overnight. There will be an informal get together for dinner on Friday night.

September 14 & 15, 2007 – Florida State will host the General Board of Assistants Meeting. It will be held at The Crowne Plaza Hotel in Orlando. The hotel is located on Rt. 528, near the airport and there is free parking for those attending. We have two delegates that represent Florida, but I think this is a wonderful opportunity for us to observe the workings of the organization and we shouldn't miss the opportunity to attend.

November 2008 – Fall Meeting will be in St Petersburg and sponsored by the William Bradford Colony.

You will be hearing more about these events in upcoming issues of "*The Florida Pilgrim.*"

I attended the William Bradford Colony Meeting in May held at the Yacht Club. How beautiful. It sits right on the water in St Petersburg. During my term of office, I hope to be able to visit all of the Colonies.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting in November. Ken Carter and his committee have a wonderful time planned for us.

September (Continued)

for free transportation from the airport, Fran found the Crowne Plaza Hotel to be the best choice.

Then comes the planning for registration on Friday, a welcome hors d'oeuvres on Friday night, a lunch on Saturday noon and hors d'oeuvres again before the banquet with a speaker at night. That doesn't sound like much, but it means menu selection, place cards, seating arrangements, etc. — a lot of work for a lot of people. Ken Carter, Ren and Muriel Cushing, Laura Brock and Hank Dressel have already volunteered their time and talents. Traditionally, trips are made available to our visitor. Trips in 2007 need to be planned on Friday to EPCOT and Sea World, and on Sunday to Kennedy Space Center.

Would you like to be a part of the action? Contact Bonny at mhstove@aol.com or any other member of the planning committee with your area of interest.

Welcome New Members

The Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants welcomes our new members for the period of January 2006 through the first half of June 2006.

Alden Colony

Carl Haberland
Christopher Johnson

Bradford Colony

Margaret Allen
Diane Arnold
Nicole Hadley
Roger Hadley
Jaclyn Killeen
Nicholas Killeen
Melissa Bradley
Kathryn Hebert

Ivey Kargas

Allen Killeen

Kathryn Killea

Matthews Killeen

Jennifer Lindsey

Robert Maas

Mary McLachlan

Christopher Schlenker

Barbara Schmitz

Christine Thompson

Paul Wright

Rebecca Wright

Brewster Colony

Elizabeth Dixon

Chilton Colony

Iris DiMercurio

Gloria Traxler

Donna Whitney

Cooke Colony

Frank Pierce

Fuller Colony

Kathryn Killea

Paul Kozak

Mark Winslow

Howland Colony

Brian Anders

Bethany Anderson

Stephen Humphrey

Stephen Johnson

Douglas Marshall

Leah Orr

Anne Schwanda

Mullins Colony

John Pardee

Standish Colony

Marjorie Wisniewski

Tilley Colony

Andrew Catsakis

Catherine Darby

Marjorie Haab

Marjorie Lohre

Paul Nugent

Peter Washburne

Seth Washburne

Warren Colony

Linda Fitzmeyer

David Kolster

Michael Kolster

Lansing Neal

Cynthia Neal

Richard Neal

Transfers into Florida Society

Bradford Colony

Jonathan Stubbs - dual membership with ME

Barbara Washburn - dual membership with MA

Chilton Colony

Peter Adams - from OH

Margaret Christie - dual membership with MI

Cooke Colony

Viola Paquin - dual membership with RI

Howland Colony

Linda Frey - from ME

Standish Colony

Wallace Hazen - dual membership with PA

Thanksgiving Cruise

The Florida Mayflower Society has had so many successful fun-raising, (and loads of fun), cruises that we are expanding our offering for this coming year. Now, for the first time, you can pick Eastern Caribbean, Western Caribbean, or both back-to-back!

Note: Costa Cruises is working on new and even more exciting ports for this year, so some changes will be made in the ports of call before we sail. If you have sailed with us in the past, this year will be new, exciting and different. Friends and non-members are always welcome to join us for these fun-filled days.

Option One: Western Caribbean

Option Two: Eastern Caribbean

Option Three: Both, back-to-back

The Thanksgiving cruise (Western Caribbean) departs on the new Costa Magica on November 19th and returns on November 26th, 2006. The Eastern Caribbean cruise departs on November 26th and returns on December 3rd, 2006. Each cruise is for a full seven days and nights.

Rates for Western Caribbean:

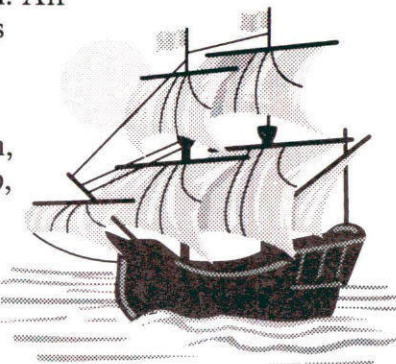
Category 1-2 (inside) \$490 per person, double occupancy; Category 3, 4 and 5 (inside) \$540 per person, double occupancy; Category 6 and 7 (outside) \$840 per person, double occupancy. Third and fourth person in same cabin \$390 per person. Third and fourth child in the same cabin \$290 per person.

Rates for Eastern Caribbean:

Category 1-2 (inside) \$440 per person, double occupancy; Category 3, 4 and 5 (inside) \$490 per person, double occupancy; Category 6 and 7 (outside) \$820 per person, double occupancy. Third and fourth person in same cabin \$340 per person. Third and fourth child in the same cabin \$240 per person.

Note: Taxes, government fees and port charges are extra. Air fares and hotel rooms are also available for an additional charge.

For more information, contact A & A Group, Inc. by telephone at 678-493-2400, or by e-mail at arthur.chapman@comcast.net.



Spring Board of Assistants Meeting

A special Spring Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants Board of Assistants was held on Sunday, April 30, 2006, at the Clock Family Restaurant in Clewiston, Florida. State Governor Frances "Fran" Lopus determined there was a quorum. After introductions and a prayer, several important items were opened for discussion.

Governor General Edward Delano Sullivan reported that the State Society had been successful in obtaining a Florida State Tax Exemption Certificate from the Florida Department of Revenue. A letter from the State Society to the Florida Department of Revenue listing the colonies will now make it possible for each Colony to obtain its own individual certificate. Each Colony will be responsible for obtaining its own Consumer's Certificate of Exemptions.

State Governor Fran Lopus asked that detailed information on the Mayflower Cruise be sent to all the Colony Governors. The cruise is scheduled for November 16, 2006 directly following the Annual November State Meeting.

State Governor Lopus also announced that Florida will be hosting the 2007 General Society of Mayflower Descendants Board of Assistants meeting, and that Deputy Governor General "Bonny" Stover has agreed to chair the committee. See article "Remember September" on page one for more details.

State Elder Kenneth Carter was named Financial Chair, and State Captain and Tilley Colony Governor "Ren" Cushing was named Registration Chair. Location, airport availability, and dates were discussed. The majority of those present voted for Orlando as the location for either the second or third weekend of September depending on what hotel arrangements could be made.

Deputy Governor General "Bonny" Stover reported that her tentative plans are for a Thursday arrival, a Friday evening reception and an all day business meeting on Saturday, followed by an optional special trip to Kennedy Space Center on Sunday.

State Deputy Governor Robert Burt reported on the Florida Scholarship and named Craig Weedon, nephew of Past Colony Governor of Francis Cooke Carol Yovanovich, as this year's recipient. It was also noted

that the scholarship application form is available on the State website.

A motion to reinstate the State Spring Board of Assistants meeting was passed, and a tentative date of Saturday, April 28, 2007 was set.

More information will be confirmed at the next Board of Assistants meeting in November 2006.

State Elder Ken Carter announced that this year's Annual State meeting will be hosted by the James Chilton Colony at the Hampton Inn in The Villages on November 17 and 18, 2006.

State Governor Lopus congratulated State Elder Carter on his great new certificate format design, which will replace the old previous letter.

A motion was made and carried that the State Constitution and By-Laws be placed on the State website with restricted access. It was noted this would be inclusive with a secure URL website for maintaining the Florida Society Membership List, the feasibility of which is still being considered under advisement.

State Elder Kenneth Carter gave the benediction and the State Spring Board of Assistants meeting was adjourned.



In Memoriam...

We mourn the passing of the following
Mayflower members:

Katherine Cushman

Florida State Governor
1964-1966

Francis Cooke Colony Governor
1975-76 & 1979-80

Walter Wadsworth

Florida State Governor
1978-1980

Francis Cooke Colony Governor
1969-70 & 1977-78

They will be missed!

Promoting Our Pilgrim Heritage

By Education Chairman Dan Dragonetti

Mayflower education is fun and very important to our mission of preserving the important position our ancestors hold in American history. The *Mayflower Compact* is the progenitor instrument of *The Constitution of The United States of America*. No other group of first families in America can make that claim. The *Compact* and the personal heroism of our ancestors must never be forgotten. Here are my suggestions to all Colony Education Chairmen and to all Mayflower Society members concerning public education:

1. Go to your County School Board and ask to speak to the person who is Community Relations Liaison. This is the person who posts notices concerning students, who are achieving academically or via civic contributions. Discuss with the Liaison the concept of a Mayflower Achievement Award. During my term as Education Chairman at Stephen Hopkins Colony, we presented several of these Awards and the principals loved the idea. The teachers loved the idea too and would call me requesting awards for specific students. I went to the schools and gave a discussion concerning the Mayflower Pilgrims, which fulfilled our education mission. I then presented the award to the student. The Indian River County School Superintendent also loved the Mayflower Award Program.

2. The program listed above can be presented to the private schools as well.

3. I am a member of First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach. I discussed with my ministers the concept of honoring the Mayflower Pilgrims each Thanksgiving week. They agreed and commencing with this year our GSMD approved VCR tape (cost \$43) discussing our ancestors will be shown. In addition, I will give a 10-minute discussion of the *Mayflower Compact* and answer any questions the parishioners may have.

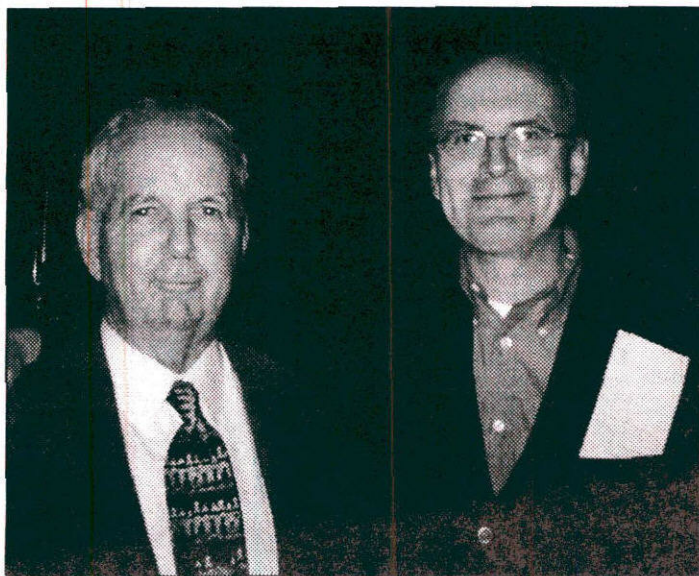
4. During my term as Education Chairman at Stephen Hopkins, I was able to discuss with the Indian River County Commissioners the concept of Mayflower Week in the County. The Commission agreed to issue a proclamation proclaiming Thanksgiving Week as Mayflower Pilgrim Week in Indian River County.

These concepts worked for me, and I know they can work for you too. We must be very certain that the wonderful Mayflower Pilgrims are never forgotten, because they are amongst the first families of this great country of ours ... America!

Please contact me at 772-589-6921, if you have any education questions or suggestions.



Pilgrim Hall Book Signing



General Society of Mayflower Descendants Governor General and Florida State Counselor Edward D. Sullivan greeted award-winning author Nathaniel Philbrick, who spoke about his latest book, *“Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War”* and signed copies of it at an event held at Pilgrim Hall Museum, Plymouth, MA on Thursday, June 8, 2006.

The jacket of Mr. Philbrick’s book is that of a painting currently on display at the museum. *“Mayflower”* traces the journey of our Forefathers and chronicles the history of both the Plymouth Colony and King Philip’s War.

Pictured left to right: GG Edward D. Sullivan and Nathaniel Philbrick

What My Mayflower Ancestry Means To Me

By Scholarship Winner Craig Weeden

When I am in Plymouth visiting my grandparents, I often visualize what life would have been like back in the 1620s. My grandparents live in a house included in the National Registry of Historic Homes which is a group that restricts homeowners from making any major modifications on their property without approval from the Society. When I visit them, we often take a stroll down along the waterfront to go see the Plymouth Rock, the Mayflower II, Massasoit, the Pilgrim Mother, and the First House.

My relation to the passengers of the Mayflower has great meaning to me. The courage, bravery, and perseverance of the Pilgrims sets a backbone for the ideals I hold in my everyday life. The separation of the Pilgrims from the Church of England was a bold and brave move made to uphold the belief in the necessity of purity in religion. Their determination to fully gain religious freedom took them from England to Holland and finally to Plymouth. They braved persecution, demanding ocean voyages, and severe weather all to pursue a life with a religion of their choosing.

The Pilgrims first ventured to Holland in their pursuit of religious freedom. They sought a life of simplicity and religion for themselves as well as their children. After a short stay in Holland, they decided to choose somewhere else for their settlement because the different society of Holland was influencing their children negatively and undesirably. In the search for

a new location, they discovered the New World of North America.

The Pilgrims are in essence the creators of the foundation upon which this great country is built. Often called a melting pot for many spheres of influence, America brings together many aspects of numerous cultures and takes the result in as its own. The Pilgrims began this cultural accumulation by creating a strong base and then accepting others of different backgrounds into their society. I hold myself to this standard of acceptance on a smaller level hoping that I can be as open minded as my forefathers.

Thanksgiving dinner is still a major tradition in my family. Every year my parents, brother and I go down to Plymouth to join my grandparents in our turkey feast. We go as a family to the Pilgrims Progress, and the ceremonies at Burial Hill. My mother helps my grandmother prepare a turkey, with all the fixings. My brother and I assist whenever possible and my grandfather is responsible for the mashed potatoes, which are creamy and delicious every year. Before we eat, we sit around the table, bow our heads and say our blessings for the food in front of us. My grandfather leads the saying of grace and often relates it to an event from his younger years in Plymouth. During this time, I think back to those first winters, the first Thanksgiving dinners, and the mutualistic interaction between the Pilgrims and the Indians.

FSMD Scholarships

The deadline for a FSMD scholarship application is March 1. The required essay title is "*What My Mayflower Heritage Means To Me.*"

To obtain an application, contact Deputy Governor Robert Burt, 219 Allen Ave., Key Largo, FL 33037, or download one online from the FL Mayflower website at: www.geocities.com/flmayflower. Scroll down to the scholarship paragraph and press on the icon. The application will appear and you can print it out.

Established in 2003, the FSMD Scholarship Fund is maintained solely by voluntary contributions by Florida Society members and colonies. Members are encouraged to donate to this worthy cause. It is a great way to remember a special occasion or to honor a loved one, plus help expand the educational horizons of younger Mayflower descendants.

Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants Scholarship Fund Donation

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Donation Amount: _____

In Memory of: _____

Make checks payable to:

Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants

Send to: Susan Shannon, FSMD Treasurer
9008 Calwood Court, Orlando, FL 32825-8062

We Are The Chosen!

We are the chosen. In each family, there is one person who seems called to find the ancestors. They put flesh on their bones, make them live again, tell the family story, and feel that somehow their ancestors know and approve.

Doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts. Instead, it is breathing life into those who have gone before. We are the storytellers of the tribe, and all tribes have one. We have been called, as it were, by genetics. Those who have gone before cry out to us, "Tell our story!" So, we do.

In finding them, we somehow find ourselves. How many graves have I stood before now and cried? I have lost count. How many times have I told the ancestors, "You have a wonderful family; you would be proud of us." How many times have I walked up to a grave and felt somehow there was love there for me? I cannot say.

It goes beyond just documenting facts. It goes to who I am, and why I do the things that I do. It goes to seeing a cemetery about to be lost forever to weeds and indifference, and saying, "I can't let this happen." The bones here are bones of my bone, and flesh of my flesh. It goes to doing something about it. It goes to pride in what our ancestors accomplished, how they contributed to what we are today. It goes to respecting their hardships and losses, their never giving in or giving up, their resoluteness to go on and build a life for their family.

It goes to deep pride that our forefathers fought and some died to make and keep for us a Nation. It goes to a deep and immense understanding that they were doing it for us. It is of equal pride and love that our mothers struggled to give us birth. Without them, we could not exist, so we love each one as far back as we can reach — that we might be born who we are — that we might remember them. So, we do.

With love and caring and scribing each fact of their existence, because we are they, and they are the sum of who we are. So, as a scribe called, I tell the story of my family. It is up to that one called in the next generation to answer the call and take my place in the long line of family storytellers.

That is why I do my family genealogy. That is what calls to both young and old to step up and restore the memory or greet those whom we had never known before.

— Author Unknown

You Are Cordially Invited...

69th Annual Florida State Meeting

hosted by the

James Chilton Colony FSMD

to be held on Friday & Saturday,

November 17 & 18, 2006

at the

Laurel Manor Recreation Center

1985 Laurel Manor Drive

The Villages, FL 32162

Friday Night Banquet – November 17, 2006

Washington & Jefferson Rooms

6:00 PM – Cocktail Hour (*Cash Bar*)

7:00 PM – Dinner • 8:00 PM – Program

"Before Plymouth: The Settlement of Florida"

Guest Speaker:

Dallace Meehan, Retired Military

— DINNER SELECTIONS —

Tenderloin Tips and Mushrooms

Simmered in a Bourbon Gravy, served over
Garlic Mashed Potatoes, and Baby Carrots with Dill

Herb Glazed Salmon Filet

Flaky Farm-Raised Salmon with a Citrus Herb Glaze,
Oven-Roasted Potatoes and Baby Carrots with Dill

\$30.00 per person, including tax & gratuity

Saturday Meetings – November 18, 2006

Jefferson Room

8:00 – 9:00 AM – Board of Assistants Meeting

9:00 – 12:00 Noon – State Meeting

Coffee will be available.

Please send your check payable to:

"James Chilton Colony" in the amount of \$30.00 per person, along with your dinner selection on or before November 3, 2006 to:

Kenneth E. Carter, Treasurer

James Chilton Colony, 1202 Arriago Way,
The Villages, FL 32162-0106

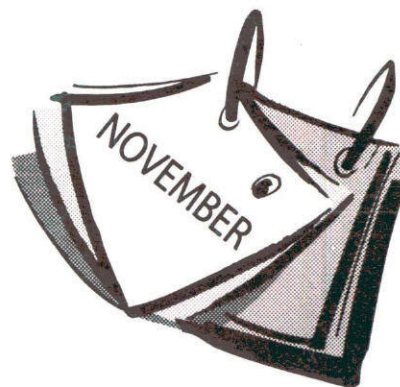
A limited number of hotel rooms are available at the special rate of \$107.99 per night including tax and a continental breakfast at the Hampton Inn, 1172 NE 63rd Drive (CR 466), The Villages, 352-259-8246 or 1-800-426-7866. *NOTE: Reservations must be made by November 3, 2006. The room rate after November 3 will be \$119.00 per night plus tax.*

Mark Your Calendars!

September 8-10, 2006

GSMD General Board of Assistants Meeting

hosted by the Colorado Society
at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver, CO



November 17-18, 2006

69th Annual FSMD State Meeting

hosted by the James Chilton Colony
at the Hampton Inn in The Villages, FL

Change of Address?

Don't forget to notify "your" Colony if your address or telephone number changes. Colony Governors please send Ren Cushing your updated Colony membership lists. Thank you for your help.

**Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the State of Florida**
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Port Orange, FL 32129



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