

## 2008 FSMD Three Scholarship Winners!



*Laura Elizabeth Miller*



*Rebecca Lauren Thompson*



*April Louise Pearson*

*By Robert Burt, Deputy Governor*

This year the Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants (FSMD) is awarding three scholarships. FSMD Scholarship Chairman, Deputy Governor Robert E. Burt made the announcement of the three \$1,000 scholarship winners at the Spring Board of Assistants meeting.

**Laura Elizabeth Miller** is a graduate of Fleming Island High School in Orange Park, Florida. She was editor of her high school newspaper "The Eagles Eye," founder of the Young Democrats Club, and an active member of the National Honor Society. Laura has also earned the Cambridge Scholar Award, the Principal's Scholar Award, and has traveled to France, Spain and Italy with her French class. She ranks 32 out of 461 and holds a 4.0 GPA. Laura has been accepted by NYU for a degree in Journalism. Her Mother Kathryn Miller of the Richard Warren Colony is her sponsor.

**Rebecca Lauren Thompson** is a graduate of Taylor County High School in Perry, Florida. She was the president of the Student Government Association, recording secretary of the National Honor Society, secretary of the School Advisory Council, a Honor Roll student (with a 4.46 weighted GPA), a member of Taylor County High

Little Women Community Service Club, and in the Senior Homecoming Royalty Honor Court. Rebecca is also an active member in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Church Youth Group. Her Aunt Margaret Eileen Martin of the William Mullens Colony is her sponsor. Rebecca holds a 4.0 GPA and ranks 5 out of 128 in her class. She has been accepted by Florida State University for a degree in Business Management.

**April Louise Pearson** is a graduate of Westminster Academy in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She plans to attend Florida Southern University for a degree in Pre-Medicine and then plans to attend medical school. April holds a 4.0 GPA and has been on the Honor Roll for the past 4 years. She is an active member in the: Children of the American Revolution (state president in her senior year), National Honor Society, South Florida Chapter of the American Harp Society, and South Florida Youth Symphony. In addition, she has over a 100 hours of community service in tutoring Chemistry and Alzheimer's day care activities with the National Honor Society; and has received many awards in music. April is a Junior Member of the Isaac Allerton Colony.

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## Spring Board of Assistants Meeting

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By Sheila See, State Secretary

The Board of Assistants Spring Meeting was held in Lakeland, Florida on April 25-26, 2008. Friday evening about 20 colony governors and state officers enjoyed a get-together dinner at the Imperial Swan Hotel. Saturday morning the meeting was called to order by State Governor Frances Lopus who gave a welcome greeting to all present, followed by the Invocation by State Elder Kenneth Carter. State Captain Ren Cushing led the Pledge of Allegiance and the salute to the Mayflower flag. Announcements were given by Governor Frances Lopus and a roll call of the officers was taken by State Secretary Sheila See.

State Treasurer Susan Shannon distributed her report and stated that Florida has 108 life members. Director Nate Heuberger expressed concerns over the Endowment Fund and after much discussion three new trustees were appointed: Ruth Ann Fay of the Francis Cooke Colony for a three year term; Nathan Heuberger of the John Howland Colony for a two year term and Hank Dressel of the John Howland Colony for a one year term.

State Historian Muriel Curtis Cushing announced a gain of 29 new members for the first few months of 2008 and reported a total of 1,234 Florida Society members.

It was voted to increase the State Scholarship Fund to \$3,000 to be distributed between three applicants for the current year. It was decided to review the fund and the amount set on a yearly basis as funds permit. It was voted to send \$1,000 to the Plymouth Plantation with a designation for the upkeep of the ship Mayflower II.

Deputy Governor General (DGG) Bonny Stover, chairperson of the nominating committee, read the slate of officers for the November election:

Governor: Robert Burt, William Brewster Colony

Vice Governor: Reynolds Cushing, Elizabeth Tilley Colony

Secretary: Jessie Brabham, William Mullins Colony

Treasurer: Henry Dressel, John Howland Colony

Historian: Muriel Curtis Cushing, Elizabeth Tilley Colony

Counselor: Edward Delano Sullivan, John Alden Colony

Elder: Albert Myers, Myles Standish Colony

Captain: Kenneth Carter, James Chilton Colony

Directors: Laura Brock, William Bradford Colony

Jean Harden, Edward Fuller Colony

Nathan Heuberger, John Howland Colony

Education Chair: Jean Albrecht, James Chilton Colony

State Database Chairman Ren Cushing reported the cost of publishing a new pink directory using a small loose leaf binder. It was explained that the pages could be updated with recent information at a much lesser cost. After discussion it was decided, for the present, to continue with the colonies doing their own rosters.

Publicity Chairman Don Winslow reported on the difficulties of having meetings and events published in local newspapers.

DGG Bonny Stover reminisced on the many offices she has had in the Mayflower Society, the changes that have taken place and how she would miss her very active part in the Society. She was given a standing ovation for her long years of service.

The meeting adjourned after the reading of the Compact by State Captain Ren Cushing and the benediction was given by Elder Kenneth Carter.

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## 71st Annual FSMD Meeting

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Your are cordially invited to attend the 71st Annual Meeting of the Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants to be held on Friday and Saturday, November 21-22, 2008 at The Country Club of Naples, 185 Burning Tree Drive, Naples, FL 34105. The meeting will be hosted by the Myles Standish Colony. The deadline for registration is November 7, 2008.

The guest speaker will be David B. Mitchell, Esq. Mr. Mitchell is presently affiliated with the Sam Adams Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution, is a "1776-er" with the Miami Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, and was elected to the Order of Founders & Patriots of America. He is a life member of the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States and the Colonial Order of the Crown. Mr. Mitchell is also a member of the Somerset Chapter of the Magna Charta Barons, the Baronial Order of the Magna Charta, Order of the Merovingian Dynasty and numerous genealogical and historical societies.

Registration Fee (per adult & guest) . . . . . \$ 4.00  
(non-refundable)  
Friday Banquet 6:00 PM . . . . . \$34.00  
Saturday Luncheon 12 noon . . . . . \$22.00  
Banquet Sales Table Reservation . . . . . \$ 5.00

Make checks payable to: "Myles Standish Colony," and mail them to: Sheila See, 233 Estrellita Dr., Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931-5208. For more information, contact Sheila See at 239-463-2817 or SBSee@aol.com.

**FLORIDA STATE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY OF  
MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS**

If you are going to attend Congress in Plymouth in September:

Florida will be getting together for a social time. Sept. 7, 2008,

Sunday Night at 5:00 p.m. we will meet and share a meal and

Fellowship at ISAAC'S ON THE WATERFRONT.

114 Water Street – Plymouth, MA. This is within walking distance of the Radisson Hotel.

We hope you will join us and any GUESTS that you may want to bring are welcome.

Return the bottom half of this, marking your choice and a check by August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Make check out to and send to: Frances J. Lopus –  
122 Moorings Park Drive – G-601 - Naples, FL. 34105

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CHICKEN CORDON BLEU: Boneless breast of chicken with baked ham, Swiss cheese and seasonings. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$21.00

Seafood Medley: Combination scrod, shrimp, & scallops, broiled & then topped with our seafood stuffing. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$22.00

All of these include rolls, potato, vegetable, salad, dessert, as well as cheese & crackers.

## GOVERNOR'S LAST REPORT

Can it be possible that this term is almost over? I have enjoyed every minute of the time. Visiting Ten Colonies has to be the high light of my term. Meeting the Florida members, hearing what different and wonderful things each Colony is doing, the fellowship, food and entertainment.

In September 2006, I attended the Board of Assistance Meeting in Denver with Bonny Stover and Muriel Cushing. In November we joined the Florida group for a cruise to the Western Caribbean. We realized \$500 from this trip which we deposited into our State Endowment Fund.

In September 2007, Florida was the Host State for the Board of Assistance Meeting. We were chosen to host this meeting because our Governor General Edward Delano Sullivan is from Florida. Bonny Stover and her committee did a superior job in pulling everything together. The occasion was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Orlando with 175 delegates and guests attending. We had 15 Junior members attend the Banquet, which was a first for the Mayflower Society. Each Junior was given a small pewter ship to wear and a PBJ (Peanut Butter & Jelly) Certificate.

At our last Florida BOA Meeting in April, we revised our Florida Mayflower Trust Fund. It has been named the James Holyfield Florida Mayflower Trust Fund. Jim was a Part Governor and was instrumental in starting the fund. Also at that meeting Bonny Stover gave her last report. Bonny has been the Tilley Colony Governor two times, the Florida State Secretary, the State Governor, the Assistant General and Deputy Governor General, as well as the General Junior Membership Chairman and served on the General Nominating Committee this year. During her term as State Governor she started the Scholarship Program that has been so successful. We are going to miss Bonny in a leadership position. She has been the one I have turned to for the right answer. Susan Shannon will complete her last term as Treasure in November. Susan took over the position of Treasurer when our last Treasurer died about 12 years ago. She had no guidance, no former Treasurer to turn to, but has kept us on track and in the black every since.

We have lost some very important leaders and friends this last term. However, we have gained some members that will be of importance to us. We have over 1200 members now in our state and over 900 Junior members. We have the largest number of Junior members in all of the states. At the 2007 BOA Meeting we received a certificate and \$100 from the General Junior Chairman which was for 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for the largest increase in Junior Member. This year we were able to give three \$1000 scholarships to graduating relatives of our members.

This September we go to Plymouth for the 38<sup>th</sup> Mayflower General Congress. In November The Myles Standish Colony in Naples invites us to the 71<sup>st</sup> State Meeting. I'm looking forward to seeing you then.

I want to thank the Officers, Committee Chairman and all the members for your support. It has been an honor and a pleasure to be your Governor.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN US FOR THE  
71<sup>st</sup> Annual Florida State Meeting  
which will be hosted by the  
**Myles Standish Colony**  
**Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida**  
to be held on

Friday & Saturday, 21 & 22 November 2008

Meetings at The Country Club of Naples  
185 Burning Tree Drive  
Naples, FL 34105

Lodging at Hampton Inn - Central Naples  
3210 Tamiami Trail North  
Naples, FL 34103

**State Meeting Registration Form**

DEADLINE FOR STATE MEETING REGISTRATION IS FRIDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2008

Name (for Badge) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (w/ Area Code) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Colony Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Title (as an officer of the society) \_\_\_\_\_

If a special diet is required please send that information to Sheila See by 1 November.

Friday, 21 November 2008

(6:00 PM) Banquet with Cash Bar \$34.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, 22 November 2008

(12:00 Noon) Luncheon with Cash Bar \$22.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Boutique Sales Table Reservation \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee for each adult member and guest \$ 4.00 \$4.00  
(Non-Refundable)

Total enclosed (including Registration Fee) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

( If registering more than one person, you may write one check for the grand total)

Mail all forms (one for each person) with your check payable to "Myles Standish Colony" to:

Sheila See  
233 Estrellita Dr  
Fort Myers Beach FL 33931-5208

[SBSsee@aol.com](mailto:SBSsee@aol.com)  
239-463-2817

Advance reservations required; must be cancelled by Tuesday, 18 November to avoid a charge.

Tentative Schedule 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting Society of Mayflower Descendants  
in the State of Florida

**Friday, 21 November**

- 12:30 P – 5:00 P - Reception/Registration at Hampton Inn for those staying at the hotel  
2:00 P – 4:00 P Welcome Reception at Hotel  
5:00 P – 7:00 P – Registration at Country Club of Naples  
5:00 P – 7:00 P – Boutique Sales Tables at Country Club of Naples  
6:00 P – 7:00 P – Banquet Cash Bar at Country Club of Naples  
7:00 - ~9:00 P - Banquet & Annual Meeting Call to Order  
David B. Mitchell, Esq. Speaker “The Magna Carta”

**Saturday, 22 November**

- 8:00 A – 9:30 A – Reception/Registration at Country Club of Naples  
8:30 A – 9:15 A – Board of Assistants Meeting at Country Club of Naples  
9:15 A – 9:30 A – Coffee Break - All are welcome!  
9:30 A – 12: 00 Noon – Annual Business Meeting – Open to all members at  
Country Club of Naples  
12:30 P – Luncheon at Country Club of Naples

**HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION**

Hampton Inn Naples-Central, FL

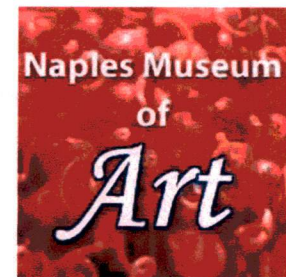
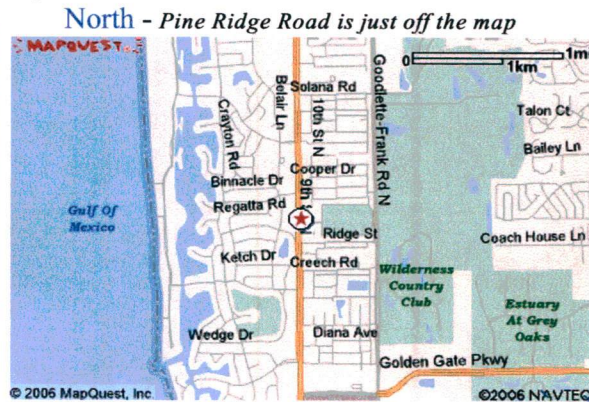
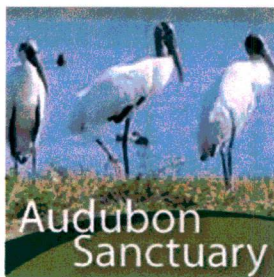
3210 Tamiami Trail North, Naples, FL

Te1. 239-261-8000 Fax 239-261-7802

Call for Reservations and mention you are with the Mayflower Society. Please make your reservations early. You will need to reserve by 1 November 2008 to secure the special rate.

Special Mayflower Rate of \$84 per night (Thursday to Saturday) includes an extensive breakfast.

Located 1.6 miles south of Pine Ridge Road and 1 mile north of Golden Gate Parkway on the east side Tamiami Trail (Route 41)



Country Club of Naples  
185 Burning Tree Dr  
Naples, FL

Take I-75 to Pine Ridge Road. Follow Pine Ridge west to Goodlette Frank Road and turn left. Stay in left lane until you reach Solana Road (West) and Burning Tree Drive (East). Turn east and stay on Burning Tree Drive until you reach the club.

Society of Mayflower Descendants  
in the  
State of Florida

November 2008 - Annual Meeting  
Banquet Speaker  
David B. Mitchell, Esq.

Biography: Phi Delta Phi. Listed in: Who's Who In American Law, 1998-1999, 2003-; Who's Who in America, 2000, 2005-; Martindale-Hubbell's Bar Registry of Preeminent Lawyers, 2003, 2005-. Mediator, Florida Supreme Court Certified Family Courts, 1991-. Certified County Court Mediator, Florida Supreme Court, 2003-. Mediator, Florida Department of Financial Services, 1992-. Certified Arbitrator, State and Federal Courts, Florida Supreme Court, 1995-. Florida Claims Appeal Arbitrator, Prudential Life Insurance National Class Action Remediation Program, 1999-2000. President, Coral Gables Citizens' Crime Watch, 2001-2003. Mayoral Appointee, Coral Gables City-Wide Anti-Crime Committee, 2001-2005, Chairman, 2005. Mayoral Appointee, Coral Gables Emergency Operations Department, 2005. Mayoral Appointee, Coral Gables Public Safety Committee (Chairman, 2006-2007). President, Miami Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, 2006. President, Rotary Club of Coral Gables, 2007-2008. Author: "Magna Carta and the American Revolution" (Flintlock & Powderhorn, Spring 2005). (Managing Partner)

Hereditary Society Involvement: Mr. Mitchell is presently affiliated with the Sam Adams Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution, is a "1776-er" with the Miami Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, and was elected to the Order of Founders & Patriots of America. He is a life member of the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States, and the Colonial Order of the Crown. Mr. Mitchell is also a member of the Somerset Chapter of the Magna Charta Barons, the Baronial Order of the Magna Charta, Order of the Merovingian Dynasty and numerous genealogical and historical societies.

Born: Miami Beach, Florida

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## Words to the Wise for the Plymouth 400th Anniversary in 2020

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By Winn Taplin

(Reprinted from the Tilly Times, May 2008)

The 400th Anniversary of the founding of the Jamestown settlement in Virginia was celebrated throughout 2007. It is not too early for leaders of the Society of Mayflower Descendants to be looking ahead to 2020. In particular, they should learn from the “politically correct” distortions that officialdom – both Virginia and U.S. – built into the Jamestown story. Unfortunately, there are historians and officials bent on “reconstructing” the history of English settlement of Colonial America who will want to take over the story of the settlement and development of Plymouth. The Seattle school district’s recent insistence that Thanksgiving be a day for “mourning” rather than “thanks” may well be a sign of what is in store for the Plymouth’s 400th.

But back to Jamestown. An article by Mark Yost in the May 16, 2007, Wall Street Journal pointed out “politically correct” historical distortions brought into the Jamestown celebration that should be a warning to our Society. Yost, a Minnesota author, describes the central theme of the official exhibits marking the Jamestown 400th Anniversary as follows: “104 Englishmen and boys waded ashore (at Jamestown). They then proceeded to decimate a native population that had lived in utter equanimity prior to their arrival, and would eventually import a slave-labor force to rape the continent of its natural resources, all for the ugly motivation of profit.” When he spoke, Henry Schroeder, Governor of the Jamestown Society, tried to assuage some of the official story. He said, “It was here on this sacred ground that the principle of representative government, private ownership of land, and civilian control of the military were firmly rooted in the New World.” But Yost points out that the Jamestown story presented by the Jamestown National Park site is quite different and gives capitalism and the rule of law “but a polite nod.”

While Yost compliments many aspects of the Jamestown exhibits, it is clear that he believes that social elements of the coming of the English were distorted “because of the curator’s myopic, politically correct focus.” Yost believes that the Jamestown curators worked from the idea that the Indians in America “had lived in utter equanimity” before the arrival of the English. One might ask, “Has any people lived ‘in utter equanimity’ in the history of mankind?” I think not. But also, can Plymouth and the Pilgrims expect better treatment from history “zealots” in 2020 than Jamestown received last year?

To conclude, “politically correct” reconstruction guides much current historical, political, and sociological research and writing. While there have always been myths and errors in history, I believe it can be safely said, history reconstruction has created as many distortions as it has corrected. And the underlying issue, in my view, is an insistence by current researchers to assess any Westerner, from whatever period, in the context of current culture and “values” rather than in the context and conventions of the subject’s own times.

The Plymouth Settlement, through the Society of Mayflower Descendants, should be organized and prepared to fend off “politically correct” distortions. Jamestown’s Anniversary was celebrated with the issuance of federal stamps and coins. This gave the U.S. Government historians “politically correct” leverage in the historical presentations of these items. If there are to be stamps and coins, federal officials may already be planning the same treatment for Plymouth’s history.

The Mayflower Society has one important advantage which, if used skillfully, may avoid having “politically correct” historians dominate the Plymouth story. The Jamestown site is a National Historic Site – government controlled. The exhibitions were housed there. At Plymouth, our Society and other interested organizations may be able to guide the celebration and its content of research and exhibitions to a greater extent that could be done at a National Historic Site. Public pressure may need to be mobilized to counter an historical takeover.

For example, a few years ago when USG historians at the Smithsonian “reconstructed” the history of the use of nuclear weapons to end World War II, it took massive public revulsion to get the Smithsonian to reassess its story on the basis of 1945 realities rather than 21st Century sensitivities.

**Given the current strength in academia of “politically correct reconstruction” of history, I suggest the Society start now to ready itself for a possible fight to have the story of the Mayflower and Plymouth be assessed and interpreted in the context of the early 17th Century rather than on the moral preachings of 2020 – whatever they may turn out to be!**

*Editor’s Note: Having just completed a college course in Early American History, I can honestly say that Mr. Taplin is correct, our history has been “reconstructed.” Thank you Mr. Taplin for bringing this matter to the Mayflower Society’s attention!*

## ***Mark Your Calendars!***

**September 6-10, 2008**  
**38th Mayflower General Congress**  
Plymouth, MA

**November 21-22, 2008**  
**Florida Society Annual Meeting**  
The Country Club of Naples  
Naples, FL



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### **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