

Mayflower News

From the Governor

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Mark Your Calendar

- April 5-6, 2024 State Meeting in League City, TX
- May 4, 2024 Colony Luncheon at Balcones Country Club
- June 22, 2024 Social Gathering at Susan Goldsworthy's home
- November 16, 2024 Mayflower Compact Luncheon at Balcones Country Club

Contact the Colony Governor
 Susan Goldsworthy
 2811 Great Oaks Dr
 Round Rock, TX 78681
 Phone: 512-970-9861
 Email: slgoldsworthy@gmail.com

On Feb 3rd, we had an enjoyable afternoon in the country at the Lazy Possum Ranch, home of Randy and Wanda Reynolds. Hats off to Randy and Wanda for giving us a warm welcome in their lovely home. For some it was a long drive to Drippings Springs, but it was well worth the trip. The weather was agreeable, the food was delicious and the fellowship was priceless. 15 of us plus one very small toddler were present and got to know each other a little better. Enjoy browsing the photos taken that day.

Let's make this a semi-annual tradition. Next time I am inviting everyone to my home in Round Rock on June 22nd. My address is 2811 Great Oaks Drive. Mark your calendar. The pot luck approach worked extremely well so we will do it again. In the summer we can meet later in the day to stave off the Texas heat. Event will be 6-9pm. We can coordinate the meal items as the date nears. Invitations from our colony members for future home gatherings are welcome.

Here is an update on our colony scholarship program. We had no entries for our scholarship this year. The money that was designated for the scholarship will roll over to next year's fund. The current requirements for our scholarship are that the student be a child or grandchild or great grandchild of a member of our colony and be graduating from an accredited high school in Texas. If you have a grandchild

living in another state, they would not be eligible. The scholarship committee is looking at ways to widen the net for candidates for our scholarship and looking beyond the boundary of Texas is one way. We will discuss this at our May meeting so be thinking about it.

Speaking of our May meeting, I have invited our State Governor, Kimberly Florsheim, to join us and she has graciously agreed. If you have any topics or questions that you would like her to address, please let me know. We will have more raffle items for your consideration from Curt's trip to the museum in Plymouth last summer.

Lynn Tennison, our Colony Elder, has moved to Fort Worth; this leaves her position open. If you are interested in serving as our Elder, contact me.

Now we are looking forward to our annual State Meeting April 5th-6th. This year it is in League City, south of Houston. I was a League City resident for 14 years before moving to Round Rock, so I will take a walk back in time to see how the city has grown since I moved away in 1984. Consider joining me and other members of our colony in attending this statewide gathering. Registration forms are attached to this newsletter.

Welcome to these new members of our colony:

- ◆ Judith Kay Bippert, descendant of Stephen Hopkins
- ◆ Tracy Colleen Marcelo, descendant of William White
- ◆ James Allen Martin, descendant of Richard Warren
- ◆ Amy Carin Mitschke, descendant of George Soule
- ◆ Kimberly Elaine Valentine-Muth, descendant of John Howland
- ◆ Jill Elizabeth Wyman, descendant of John Tilley

Photos from the Lazy Possum Ranch



Lazy Possum Ranch, home of Randy & Wanda Reynolds



Nancy Branstiter



David Armer, Curt Wyman, Brad Larkin & Ann Schumacher



Front row, l to r: Wanda & Randy Reynolds, Joyce Campbell, Ann Schumacher, Curt Wyman, Ann Bell, Diane Christensen; back row: Brad Larkin, Susan Goldsworthy, Pamela Collier, Jill Cornelius, David Armer, Lowell Christensen holding Sophia. Nancy Branstiter

More Photos from the Lazy Possum Ranch



Front row, l to r: Wanda Reynolds, Joyce Campbell, Brad Larkin, Curt Wyman, Ann Bell, Diane Christensen, Nancy Branstiter; back row:, Susan Goldsworthy, Pamela Collier, James Collier, Jill Cornelius holding Sophia, David Armer behind Jill & Lowell Christensen.

Jill Cornelius & Ann Bell



Diane and Lowell Christensen with granddaughter and Junior member Sophia



Pamela & James Collier, Joyce Campbell; Randy Reynolds in the background.

Officer Biographies

Colony Treasurer Diane Christensen

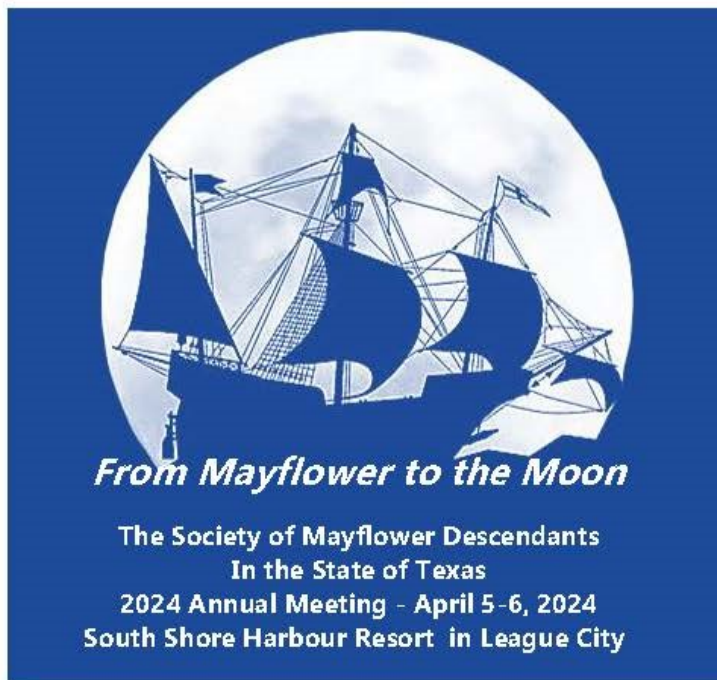


Diane was raised in McFarland, Wisconsin with only 58 in her high school graduating class. She attended Luther College, in Decorah, Iowa, majoring in Music and English. Here she met her husband Lowell. They celebrated their 50th anniversary last year. They lived in Decorah for 27 years, a town of about 5,000 residents. She worked at one of the two banks in town and Lowell managed the local hardware store. She was instrumental in restarting the local Red Cross Chapter and organized many fundraising events as well as helping with many American disasters from flooding to hurricanes, from North Carolina, Iowa and even stationed in San Antonio one time. These experiences helped her understand that at any time you could lose all your material items, but it is your family and friends that are important. For her volunteer work, she received the Iowa Red Cross Volunteer of the Year Award. In 2000, they moved to Austin where she worked for a startup internet banking company and later a startup technology company. After retiring in 2020, she had time to pursue her love of genealogy. Her great aunt started it all by keeping notes and pictures of family members. Using this as a springboard, Diane now has two trunks and lots of binders full of information on her family. Her proven passenger is Edward Fuller but she also descends from John Alden, Samuel Fuller, William Mullins, Henry Samson and Myles Standish. Supplementals to SOMD are in her future. She is a member of the Daniel Coleman chapter of DAR and is an enthusiastic volunteer in both of these lineage societies. They have two children: Ryan Thomas lives in Decorah, Iowa and has two children, Katie Jane and Brock Thomas and Megan Ruth Venegas lives in Buda with one daughter, Sophia. Both Brock and Sophia are Junior Members of TXSOMD. Look for Sophia in the photo pages of this newsletter.

David was born in a farmhouse in central Missouri. The main crop was strawberries. When he was sixteen, his parents moved the family to Mesa, Arizona, just east of Phoenix. He graduated from Arizona State University with a degree in Education in 1972. After completion of basic training in the Air National Guard, he accepted a full-time position in the base training office. Other positions held were Personnel Data System Manager and Base Personnel Manager. He retired in 2008 as Chief Master Sergeant. He married his wife Susan in 1999. Between them, they have four children and nine grandchildren. They followed the youngest grandchildren to Texas in 2018. As a child he always enjoyed listening to the older relatives talk. He learned how members of his family arrived in Missouri. Some came by ship from Ireland, some from Germany, losing a son on the trip. Others came by horse drawn wagon from Indiana and Illinois. Those old timers would be amazed with what he has learned studying genealogy. Both of his parents had ancestors on the Mayflower. His local grade school was Mayflower Elementary. For most of his life, he associated that name with wildflowers and not his ancestors. He is a member of the Patrick Henry chapter of SAR and serves as their Historian. He participates in a local VFW post. These activities take a minimum of time and leave him free to pursue his favorite activity: flyfishing. He volunteers with Freedom On the Fly. This is a non-profit group that teaches flyfishing to veterans including casting, fly tying and rod building. They also host flyfishing trips where their primary focus is on disabled veterans. He also enjoys traveling with his wife and spending time with their grandchildren.

Colony Captain David Armer





Houston,
The Mayflower landed in 1620.
The Eagle landed in 1969.
Both rocked our world.

Houston Colony is hosting an out of this world 2024 Texas Mayflower Society Annual Meeting in League City at [South Shore Harbour Resort](#) on April 5-6. League City is about 30 miles southeast of Houston, about 30 miles from [Galveston](#) and about 30 miles from the [San Jacinto Battlefield and Museum](#). Not only is the location a vacation destination, but League City also provides the opportunity for our members to visit [Space Center Houston](#) on Friday morning. Houston Colony has planned a tour of NASA Johnson Space Center, and all things over the moon! Perhaps we might also gain some planetary insight into the total eclipse that Texas will experience on April 8!

Friday evening festivities begin with Texas Governor Kimberly Florsheim welcoming members at a reception in the Pool Salon and outdoor garden. Saturday morning, the 2024 Annual Meeting will open for society business. Lunch will be served in the Paradise Reef Restaurant. The evening banquet will begin at 6:30 in the Harborview Room. We are honored to host Richard Pickering, a brilliant historian, and Deputy Executive Director of Plimoth Patuxet Museums in Plymouth, as our speaker. The 2024 awards will be presented to honor the achievements of a society member and several outstanding high school scholarship recipients.

Please join us for the weekend. We look forward to welcoming you.

Kelly Sharer
Houston Colony Governor

THE SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS

2024 Annual State Meeting

April 5-6, 2024

South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center
2500 South Shore Boulevard, League City

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 5, 2024

Please note: At check-in, you will be given up to two complimentary breakfast vouchers for each day you have reserved at the hotel, including Sunday before checking out. The vouchers include a full breakfast buffet in the Paradise Reef Restaurant on the first floor beginning at 7:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. - For those registered for the "out of this world tour," please meet in the lobby of South Shore Harbour Resort for a short shuttle ride to Space Center Houston, the Official Visitor Center of NASA Johnson Space Center. Lunch will be on your own and available in the Food Lab.

2:30 p.m. - Meet outside Space Center Houston to return to South Shore Harbour.

3:00 p.m. - Registration begins for the 2024 Annual Meeting outside the Amphitheatre

4:00 p.m. - Board of Assistants and Directors meeting

6:30 p.m. - Governor's Reception

Saturday, April 6, 2024

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. - Registration outside the Amphitheater, first floor

9:00 a.m. - Opening Business Session in the Amphitheater

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. - Lunch in the Paradise Reef Restaurant

2:00 p.m. - Afternoon Business Session in the Amphitheater

5:00 - 5:30 p.m. - Board of Assistants and Directors meeting in the Amphitheater

6:30-8:30 p.m. - Banquet - Distinguished guest, Richard Pickering, Deputy Executive Director of Plimoth Patuxet Museums, Plymouth, is our speaker - Dinner, awards, and scholarships in the Harbourview Room, ninth floor. Dressy or cocktail dress. Optional black tie.

THE SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS
2024 ANNUAL STATE MEETING

Hosted by Houston Colony April 5-6

South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center, 2500 South Shore Boulevard, League City

For hotel reservations, please call: 281-334-1000

Ask for the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants group - \$149

The rate includes up to two complimentary breakfast vouchers per room for each morning, including Sunday, in the Paradise Reef Restaurant, beginning at 7:00 a.m.

You may also go directly to the hotel group booking link from your computer by tapping:
Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants

Hotel Reservation and Annual Meeting Registration deadline is March 1.

Member's Name _____ Guest's Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Colony _____

State and/or Colony office you hold (if any) _____

Please complete and mail registration form **before March 1**, with a check payable to Houston Colony, SOMD:

Sandra Sauers, Treasurer
8522 Pool Creek Drive
Houston, Texas 77095-3648
ssauers701@gmail.com

Registration Fee Members _____ @ \$25 each Guests _____ @ \$15 each = **Subtotal \$** _____

Friday tour of Space Center Houston - Total attending _____ @ \$40 per person = **Subtotal \$** _____

Please add a cell phone number for texting information _____

Lunch will be on your own in the Food Lab (food court) at Space Center Houston.

Friday – Governor’s Reception – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the Poolside Salon - Pool level

Hors d’oeuvres. Two drink tickets per member and guest will be available for the bar. Please use a credit card for additional bar purchases.

Members attending _____ **Guests attending** _____

Saturday Luncheon – 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. – Paradise Reef Restaurant – first floor

Indicate the sandwich selections for you and/or your guest by using a number by each choice.

() Smoked Ham and Cheddar () Grilled Chicken Breast with Avocado and Pepper Jack Cheese

() Vegetable Wrap - Served with Potato Chips, Fresh Fruit, Cookies, Brownies, and Drinks.

Members _____ **Guests** _____ **Total attending** _____ @ \$45 each = **Subtotal \$** _____

Pastries, coffee, teas, soft drinks, bottled water, and fruit juices will be served all day.

Saturday Evening Banquet – 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Harbourview Room – ninth floor

Salad of Seasonal Greens, Grilled Beef Tenderloin with Red Onion Jam plus Grilled Gulf Shrimp with Lemon Butter Sauce, and New York Style Cheesecake with Fresh Fruit Coulis - Cash Bar

Members _____ **Guests** _____ **Total attending** _____ @ \$60 each = **Subtotal \$** _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Central Texas Colony Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants

February, 2024

Date: If your Colony (not National/State) dues are already paid, please ignore. Call Diane if you have questions.

Instructions Colony Membership is by Calendar Year. If joined the Colony before September 1st your dues are for the current year, but if joined after September 1st dues would be for 2025. Current member dues for 2024 *were due* December 31st, 2023.

If you are a new member of the Central Texas Colony – Welcome!
Your membership dues are due now.

Please fill in the Quantity and Total on this Invoice for each line item

Make your check Payable to: Central Texas Colony TXSOMD

Mail Invoice and Check to: Diane Christensen, Treasurer
1702 Cedar Creek Cv
Round Rock, TX 78681
Diane2091@gmail.com
(512)517-4356

If Paying in PayPal: Send Payment to MayflowerCTX@gmail.com

Please include your name and breakout of what paying –
I.e. “2-dues for John and Jane Doe, \$25 Donation, \$2 Fee”

Line #	Description	Per Person Price	Quantity	Total
1	Jan 1st - Dec 31 st , 2024 Colony Dues	\$10.00	_____ X \$10	\$
2	Scholarship Donation			\$
Subtotal				\$
Convenience Fee <u>ONLY IF</u>				
<u>Paying by PayPal</u>				
Add \$0.50 for Subtotal between \$0.00 and \$15				\$
Add \$1.00 if Subtotal is between \$15.01 and \$30				
Add 3% of Subtotal if it is above \$30				
Total Due				\$

Thank you for your Payment!