

Mayflower Junior Journal

Volume I Issue 2

February, 2015

We encourage all of our State Junior Chairmen, Governors or Newsletter Editors to submit ideas, articles, and photos to this journal. It is about your juniors and ways for you to enhance your Junior Program.

We have some feedback from several states that do not have Junior committees. How can we assist you in developing one? Put us in contact with a potential volunteer and we will be glad to interact with them with ideas and enthusiasm. This is a committee that you can put as much or as little effort in as you are able and still reap the benefits of future adult members.



Massachusetts Junior Member Activity

We understand that sponsoring this trip is not a reality for many of our states, but this tour could act as a guide for those parents and grandparents who are individually traveling to Plymouth and Cape Cod.

Junior Member Tour
Peregrination
Lower Cape Cod Sites
Visited by the Pilgrims
Before
Landing in Plymouth

July 14, 2011

An enthusiastic group of members, families, and friends met in Eastham, MA to board buses to take us on a tour of some places of significance visited by our ancestors in November and December 1620. Our first stop was at the Provincetown Museum and Pilgrim Monument. While there we visited the Pilgrim Wing of the museum where we were able to watch a film describing the Pilgrims' preparations for their journey to the New World. Many in our group also climbed the monument. We were blessed with a magnificent day with comfortable temperatures, low humidity, and great visibility. I'm assuming our forefathers put in a good word for us.

While still in Provincetown the buses made a brief stop at the end of Commercial Street to allow us to get out and view the plaque commemorating the approximate landing site of November 11, 1620. From there we traveled to Pilgrim Heights in the Cape Cod National Seashore where we were greeted by Bill Burke, the historian of the National Park. After a brief talk, he led many on a hike to "Pilgrim Spring." We paused for lunch before leaving this area and proceeding to a pond side park on Pond Road in North Truro. The plaque at this site says that a group of 16 camped at the edge of the pond while they were exploring the area. One of their exploratory excursions took them to the South in search of the mouth of a river. As they were searching, *Mourt's Relation* says they came upon mounds, some which were obviously graves and others where corn had been stored. Our buses took us South out past Corn Hill Beach and up on the hill above where the GSMD owns a 2500 square foot parcel containing a monument marked "Corn Hill 1620" which has been carefully cared for by our own Howard Mayo. Howard spoke to the group at this site explaining the process of securing this site for future generations, saving it from being lost to development.

Leaving Truro, we continued along to First Encounter Beach and the Cove Burial Ground in Eastham. The children in our group planted flowers at the markers of Giles Hopkins and Joseph Rogers in the burial ground. These two along with Constance Hopkins Snow are believed to be buried there. I think it is significant that these three were passengers on the Mayflower as children. Eventually they made their way from Plymouth and settled as adults in Eastham. We didn't forget Constance. It just so happens that the wife of Eastham's cemetery commissioner takes good care of Constance with an annual planting. Bob Carlson, Eastham's Cemetery Commissioner, met us and had handouts that guided us to flags placed around the grounds.

The trip concluded only about 45 minutes later than we had planned.

We were so fortunate to have had Richard Pickering of the Plimoth Plantation join us with an intern from his office. Richard was able to add interesting information speaking to the group on the bus and also to individuals at our various stops. We were also pleased to have Paul Bumpus, Historian General of the GSMD, with us for the tour.

This was an interesting experience of researching, planning, and executing such a tour. As you know, this started out as an event for our junior members, as an effort to maintain their interest in our Society. I feel that it turned in to a great blend of young and not so young participating in Peregrination. When I learned that this tour would be "Peregrination" this year, I was curious of the meaning. The definition of "traveling from one place to another (usually on foot)" seemed to make our tour very appropriate as an observance of Peregrination. I hope all those on the buses were able to reflect on the difficult "traveling on foot from one place to another" that the Pilgrims must have endured as they climbed up hills and down into valleys in winter conditions on this narrow land made up of the terminal moraine and outwash plain of a glacier.

We all received great feedback from the group, some saying they can't wait until next year; others wishing it could have lasted longer. (We were together for more than six hours.)

Thanks to all who helped make this happen, especially Alice Mohnkern, Cynthia Tinney, and Beth Godfrey. Their support of the idea from the start is appreciated.

Report by Edith Bridges (MSMD Educational Committee and Jr Membership Committee)

Virtual Tours

These are an excellent resource and are suggested highly by the junior committee. Chose one to project as a loop at a meeting.

We recommend the following virtual tours can be used with your juniors

http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/

http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/webcast.htm

http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/daily_life/

http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/voyage/tour.htm

<http://www.plimoth.org/learn/MRL/watch>

<http://www.plimoth.org/learn/just-kids>

[http://www.plimoth.org/learn/MRL/interact/thanksgiving-interactive-you-](http://www.plimoth.org/learn/MRL/interact/thanksgiving-interactive-you-are-historian)

[are-historian](#)

Clothing

Want to dress your little Pilgrims or yourself? Please go to the Members Only section on the GSMD website. Under committees click on Education. The newsletters will have a series of patterns to make clothing – simply adjust for the size of your junior.



Meeting Displays

Joan Reed Miller of PA has suggested featuring a different Pilgrim at each meeting. A small table top display could be the rallying point for descendants of that particular Pilgrim and allow them to get better acquainted with each other and their Pilgrim. CT has requested the first display come from the Brewster Society. John Towle, president and Greg Thompson, historian have enthusiastically agreed to develop the display. If you are interested please contact johntowle@aol.com or gthompson5749@aol.com.

Attached is an information sheet on Brewster that may help you. You can make and distribute copies.

ELDER WILLIAM BREWSTER OF THE *MAYFLOWER*

Among those on board the *Mayflower* when it finally arrived in New England in November, 1620 were Pilgrim William Brewster, his wife Mary and their children Love and Wrestling. Brewster was born about 1556 in Scrooby, Nottinghamshire, England, attended Cambridge University for a time and later went to the Netherlands in foreign service. But he returned to Scrooby, where he was one of the early members of the Separatist religious group. Because of the threats of fines and legal punishment, many of the group fled to Holland where religious differences were accepted. Brewster even spent some time in jail in Boston, Lincolnshire, England before finally escaping the English intolerance.

In Leyden Brewster published forbidden books on his printing press that were critical of England, its king and its religious intolerance. An English warrant for Brewster's arrest was issued. After about 10 years the Separatist group decided to leave Holland, and plans were made to finance two ships in their efforts to attain religious freedom – the *Speedwell* (which leaked and could not make the voyage) and the *Mayflower*. The journey across the stormy Atlantic Ocean took 66 days. Today we call this small group of people who founded Plymouth Colony the Pilgrims.

William Brewster, an educated man and a teacher, was certainly one of those who wrote the Mayflower Compact. This famous document was signed on board the *Mayflower* before they landed, our first example of democratic government. Brewster, though almost age 60 and among the oldest men of the group, survived that first terrible winter in Plymouth as half of those who had just arrived did not survive the unidentified epidemic.

Pastor John Robinson remained in Leyden with the majority of his flock. William Brewster became the Ruling Elder of the Separatist group on the *Mayflower* and in Plymouth Colony. A minister did not arrive until 1627. As their moral and religious leader, he was a humble and gentle man. He has been described as sincere, devout, tolerant, charitable and cheerful. He taught twice on Sunday and mentioned no salary. Brewster built his own house in Plymouth and also the one in Duxbury and worked his own farm until he was 80 years old.

Children of William and Mary (----) Brewster born in Scrooby, England and Leyden, Holland:

1. JONATHAN born August 12, 1593; married LUCRETIA OLDHAM.
2. PATIENCE married THOMAS PRENCE.
3. FEAR married ISAAC ALLERTON, son of Pilgrim Isaac Allerton of the *Mayflower*.
4. CHILD died Leyden 1609.
4. LOVE born 1611; married SARAH COLLIER.
5. WRESTLING born 1614; died unmarried.

Which child of Pilgrim William Brewster is your Mayflower ancestor?

Compiled by Margaret Harris Stover from various sources, 2006
Junior Membership Chair, General Society of Mayflower Descendants
Past State Governor, Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida

Books

The Education Committee does not endorse any author's work. We seek to provide our membership with the most cogent material available. Our mission is to stretch your minds and imaginations for increased understanding and appreciation of your forebears' experiences.

The education committee suggests you read and encourage your older junior members to read Nick Bunker's *Making Haste from Babylon* copyright 2010 Random House. Suggestions for a discussion group or your own thoughts follow.

Pages 297-301 deal with Native American agriculture. The wide range of sustenance that was gleaned from the environment of New England coastal region and attainable for the survival of the colony. This reveals the variety of foods and notes the vitality of the population who were resourceful in their harvesting the bounty. On page 339 Bunker reveals the dullness of corn and clam chowder to the English pallet and introduces the need for livestock to improve the productivity of the colony and attract more settlers.

What are your thoughts on this topic of agriculture? How do you perceive yourself being inserted in this situation? Would you thrive? What are the implications for family remaining in England? How do the types of food available compare/contrast with modern day diets and health issues? Would you be able to sustain on the Pilgrim's fare of the 1620's in New England?

Meet A Junior Chairman

My name is Melrose Smith Bagwell. I live in Fordyce, Arkansas with my husband, Jay. We have lived here since 1959. I have been a member of the Descendants of the Mayflower Society since 1992. My ancestor is Peter Brown who signed the "Mayflower Compact" at Cape Cod, Massachusetts on 11 November 1620. I have been the Junior Member Chairman of the Arkansas Society for the past 20 years. I work to recruit new Junior Members and I send birthday cards each year to these members. This is a job that I enjoy doing because these young people will be the leaders of tomorrow and we need to get them interested now. We have recently received 6 new members making our total membership 113.

In 1996, I was accepted into the National Society of the Colonial Dames XVII Century on the same ancestor (Peter Brown) and am a charter member of the Ouachita Valley Chapter. I am a charter member of the Chicot Trace Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution. My ancestor is a woman by the name of Mercy Raymond Bedford who got supplies to the soldiers. Her husband remained loyal to the king and returned to England until the revolution was over. My DAR Chapter organized and sponsors the Tulip Ridge Society of the Children of the American Revolution. I am very active in all of these organizations having served as almost all chapter officers and many of the state officers in these groups. I have served as the Senior State President of the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.) as well as Senior State Treasurer. I have also served as the Senior President and Senior Treasurer of the Tulip Ridge Society. My four grandchildren are all members of C.A.R. and Junior Members of the Arkansas Society of the Descendants of the Mayflower. Two of the granddaughters are dual members of C.A.R. and DAR.

My husband and I put Radio Station KBJT on the air in 1959 and owned and operated it for almost 20 years. Then I worked as a receptionist and later as a dental assistant for the next 20 years. During this time my husband pastured churches in south Arkansas for 44 years so I was also a minister's wife.

At the present time, I am retired but do a lot of volunteer work especially at the Dallas County Museum in Fordyce, Arkansas where I am in charge of the military room and secure the

photos and biographies of the veterans in this area. I also work on other projects at the museum including helping with the Children's Room.

My husband and I have a son (Tracy) and a daughter (Cindy Crum) and four grandchildren. Cindy is also a member of the Mayflower Society, the DAR, Colonial Dames of the XVII Century, and works on the local and state level with the C.A.R.

Melrose is just one of the many junior chairmen, who provide a valuable service to GSMD and the state society. Do you have a chairman that you would like to profile?

Interaction

We are eager to provide materials and ideas through this newsletter. Please participate and share with your fellow junior chairmen. Please contact Mary Brown mbrown@ct.metrocast.net; Ellen Swayne eswayne@comcast.net; Grace Bliss Smith graceme@comcast.net; Joan Reed Miller reedmiller107@yshoo.com; Linda White geniedar1@yahoo.com. We look forward to hearing from you.