



PILGRIM NEWS

San Diego Colony

Mayflower Descendants in the State of California

Issue No. 42

Winter 2015

Governor
Gail Raser

Asst. Governor
Anita Guenin

Membership
Joyce Shiloff

Governor's Message

Welcome to the first newsletter in 2015. It has been a busy time of year since our last meeting. The Thanksgiving holiday gave us an opportunity to reflect on our ancestors who took that passage in 1620 from the known to the unknown and survived. They were of hardy "stock", as my father would have said. The Christmas season was a time of family and friends in a cheerful and caring mood. Personally, our family has ceased to give gifts of things to each other, but use the gift of spending time and interaction. I can't tell you how much more relaxing the Christmas holiday has become since we decided to do this. My best "gift" came on January 4, 2015, when grandchild eleven was born in Cambridge, MA. Vienna Gloria Raser, the descendant of eleven Mayflower passengers, was welcomed by her parents and older sister Fiona.

Now it's time to focus on our Mayflower family and to work on education outreach into our schools and community. We need your ideas and assistance in reaching into our classrooms and public venues to help keep the history of our

country alive with the younger generation. If we can create a team of us who are willing to give some time, it will make everyone's job a little lighter. Please let me know if you have any ideas on how we can accomplish this goal.

I am proud to be a part of our San Diego Colony and the people who support it with their attendance at our meetings and other activities. Our members have demonstrated their support in the state scholarship fund by buying tickets and donating to our opportunity drawings at all meetings. High school seniors with some

association with the CA Mayflower Society are helped every year because of your

contributions. Please check the latest edition of the CA Mayflower Quarterly if you know of a student that meets this criteria.

I look forward to our February meeting and sharing this time with the San Diego Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Hope you will join us for this meeting and celebration of our first President, George Washington.

Gail Raser

San Diego Colony Governor



*Ray & Gail at 40th Triennial
GSMD Congress Banquet*



*Fiona Rose Raser, on the steps
inside the Mayflower House,
Plymouth, MA*

San Diego Colony 2014 – 2016 Officers

Governor:	Gail Raser
Assistant Governor:	Anita Guenin
Recording Secretary:	Kathleen Loftman
Correspondence Secretary:	Ray Raser
Treasurer:	Sue Johnson
Elder:	Kathleen Norris
Historian:	Budd Leef
Delegate to State	
Board of Assistants:	Beverly Nickerson
Advisor/Past Governor:	Ray Raser
Web Master:	Budd Leef
Membership Secretary:	Joyce Shiloff
Education Chairman:	Amy Conboy
Hospitality:	Belle Bohn
Parliamentarian:	Kathleen Norris
Decorations:	Norma Wohlfarth

Service Beyond the Colony

Many of our San Diego Colony members provide service beyond our colony level by serving on the California State Board of Assistants and/or the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD). With the focus on serving our community, it is appropriate to acknowledge those among us who are currently reaching out beyond the colony level of service.

- Kenneth Whittemore California Governor, GSMD Elder
- Richard Bailey California Captain
- Izella Dickey California Elder
- Beverly Nickerson San Diego Representative to State Board of Assistants
- Ray Raser CA Mayflower Quarterly Co-Editor, member of GSMD Historic Sites Committee
- Gail Raser CA Mayflower Quarterly Co-Editor

We appreciate your service and what each of you do to keep the Society of Mayflower Descendants strong at both the state and national levels. If any colony member is interested in getting more involved or has concerns, please contact us at: mayflowersandiego@gmail.com.

New Members

Elected January 17, 2015

Mr. Joshua Harold Raser
14th from John Alden

Ms. Carolyn Chapman-Holman
12th from John Alden

Ms. Nancy C. Cech
13th from John Alden

Jacob Brian Raser, Major USAF
13th from William Brewster

Dr. John Michael Raser, MD
13th from William Brewster



New Members November 2014 Meeting
Membership Chair Joyce Shiloff, Sarah Schiller,
Jan Quigley, Dan McLaughlin & Gov. Gail Raser

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!!!

If you have an email and are NOT receiving your newsletter electronically, PLEASE send us message to mayflowersandiego@gmail.com so we can place you in our email contacts. You are saving us much time and money.

THANK YOU!

A Tribute to Dorothy Schwaner

A very active member of our colony, Dorothy Schwaner, passed away on January 13, 2015. Since there was no service, we thought it appropriate to share what Beverly Nickerson shared with us about Dorothy's life.

Dorothy belonged to Mayflower, DAR, Colonial Dames XVII Century and Daughters of 1812. She also belonged to the San Diego North County Genealogical Society and loved doing genealogical research on her computer. Dorothy used to belong to the "Red Hat Ladies", and she and husband Jake enjoyed Square Dancing for many years. In Mayflower, Dorothy had been Membership Chair for years then Hospitality at the entrance table where she smiled and greeted everyone. She was very adept at meeting new members and getting them involved with Mayflower activities.

As for her early history, she was born and raised in Sacketts Harbor in upper New York State located on the edge of Lake Champlain. This town did not exist before the War of 1812 and was created, she said, because of the War of 1812. I know she had a brother and sister, possibly 2 sisters. She was married to Jake for 62 years and once told me how they met in New York City at a park by the waterfront, I believe near the financial district. She was working as a secretary and Jake had a job on the waterfront, it was not Merchant Marines but something similar. I know Dorothy and Jake had 2 sons, I do not believe they had a daughter. I have met one of the sons, and he and his wife live not far from our home. He was the Sommelier for the prestigious Rancho Santa Fe French Restaurant Mille Fleur and left that job a few years ago by choice, his wife teaches French at Buena Vista High School. The other son was married to the daughter of the family that owned Draper-Damon dress store. They divorced but Dorothy kept in contact with her former daughter-in-law. They have grandchildren by both sons.



Dorothy Schwaner &
Gail Raser

Dorothy Schwaner

Dorothy Schwaner may have been small in stature, but she was large in spirit and impact. Dorothy is one of the primary reasons I became active in the San Diego Mayflower Colony. As editor of the *Hidden Valley Journal* I had dedicated the 2002 edition to Marlin Brossart, former Governor of San Diego Colony and then the Governor of the California Mayflower Society. Dorothy called me to say thank you and we started a many year dialogue. Every two years when the SD Colony officers were being nominated, Dorothy would call and ask if I would serve. My reply would be, "Thank you Dorothy, but I am really committed to other volunteer activities, maybe next term." Dorothy did not forget and she often reminded me. Finally in 2009 I said O.K. and was nominated as San Diego Colony Historian. Dorothy will not be forgotten, and her legacy will be lasting.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Raser



Richard Lederer

November 2014 Compact Day Meeting

The San Diego Colony enjoyed a Thanksgiving meal and outstanding Compact Day program on November 15, 2014. Members and guests heard member John Farrell give his "Who Am I" presentation. We are learning interesting facts about our own members through these presentations. Author and San Diego Columnist Richard Lederer, our featured speaker, entertained us with his play on words and humor found in the English language.



John Farrell

Annual Escondido Family History Fair

The 2015 Escondido Family History Fair will be held on Saturday March 7, 2015 at the Escondido LDS Church on the corner of Citracado and Felicita. Registration begins at 8:00 am and sessions begin at 9:00 with keynote speaker, the "Barefoot Genealogist", Crista Cowan from Ancestry.com opening up the day. This event is free, but you may pre-register at escondidofhc.com and also order a lunch if you like.

We plan on having a table representing the Mayflower Society, so we are looking for volunteers to staff the table for an hour or two. If you go to the above website, you will see a picture of our table last year and some of our members who were talking to people about the Mayflower Society.

Please sign up at the February meeting, or contact Gail if you can assist in this community outreach.

Military Base Entry

Due to increased security at all military bases, please follow this information. For those of us who do not have military ID, this is very important. When you send in your meal reservations, please make sure you include the following information about your vehicle: Make, Model, Color, and License Plate number. Also make sure you have your Driver's license and current registration and insurance cards available. If you do not have a base decal, you need to enter the EAST GATE off Miramar Way exit off I-15. Give yourself some additional time to get through.

Memorials

Since our last newsletter we have been informed of the passing of the following colony members:

Ray Madden

Janet Petersen

Virginia Kishbauch

Jeanne Bartman

Dorothy Schwaner

*Our sympathy is extended
To their families.*

San Diego Colony Society of Mayflower Descendants 2014-2016 Roster

The San Diego Colony publishes a new roster of members every two years. The 2014-2016 roster was available for you to pick up at the November meeting. If you are unable to attend, you may ask another member to pick yours up for you. If this does not work and you would like a copy of the roster, please send a check in the amount of \$3.00 for postage and envelope and we will mail it to you. Send your check to: San Diego Mayflower Society, P.O. Box 460482, Escondido, CA 92046.

There is revised sheet for all members to add to their books available at February meeting.

Colony Up-Coming Events

All meetings are scheduled to be held at the MCAS Miramar Officer's Club.

Social time begins at 11:00 am, meeting begins at 11:30 am and lunch is served at 12:00 pm followed by our guest speakers.

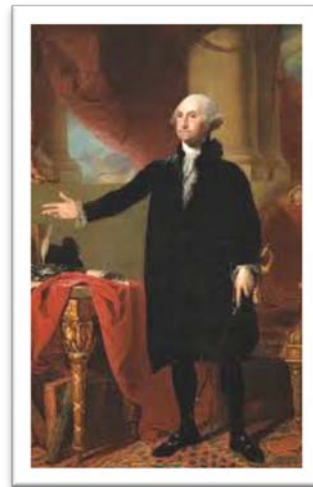
February 21, 2015: Dr. Eve Kornfeld, professor of history at San Diego State University, will be speaking. Dr. Kornfeld is a specialist in American cultural history and has published numerous articles in journals such as *The Journal of American Studies* and *William and Mary Quarterly*. She is the author of "Margaret Fuller: a Brief Biography with Documents" and "Creating an American Culture 1775-1800". Dr. Kornfeld's talk will be entitled "The Many Faces of George Washington".

May 16, 2015: Mr. Gabe Selak, the Public Programs Manager for the San Diego History Center, will be addressing us on the history of Balboa Park. Previous to moving to San Diego, Gabe worked at two renowned historical museums: Plimoth Plantation and Historic New England. More recently, he worked at the Coronado Historical Association's Museum of History and Art. Gabe has a love of history and a passion for teaching, and produces public programs at the History Center.

November 21, 2015: Mayflower Compact Day

San Diego Colony Mayflower Descendants & San Diego Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Present the George Washington Luncheon

Please Join Us!



When: Saturday February 21, 2015

Where: MCAS Officer's Club

11:00 am - No Host Bar

11:30 am – Meeting, Posting of the Colors by San Diego
SAR Color Guard

12:15 pm – Lunch with your choice of chicken or vegetarian pasta.

Speaker: Dr. Eve Kornfeld (Harvard, 1983) Author and Professor of History at SDSU will share her scholastic studies of the life of George Washington

Cost: \$20.00 complete meal, salad, drink, dessert.

* * * * * Return This Portion With Your Reservation * * * * *

Yes, I will be attending the Mayflower-SAR Luncheon. Please return this form to the SD Mayflower Colony Treasurer: Sue Johnson, **No Later than February 13, 2015.**

Meal Choice *Chicken:* _____ *Pasta:* _____ *Child:* _____

Adults: \$20.00 *Childs: \$15.00*

Names:

_____ *Adults \$* _____ *Child \$* _____

Total Due: \$ _____

Make your check payable to SD Colony of Mayflower and send it to:

Sue Johnson

(See her address in the Colony Roster)

Vehicle Information for MCAS Gate:

Make/Model: _____

Color: _____

License Plate: _____

You can help save our Colony printing and mailing costs with your email address and get the newsletter in living color. Notify us at: mayflowersandiego@gmail.com.

Directions to MCAS Officer's Club

If you have military ID you may enter the base through any gate. If you do not have a military ID, then you need to enter using the East Gate from Miramar Way.

Make sure that each person has available a picture ID, and the driver has the car registration and proof of insurance.

EAST GATE DIRECTIONS: Exit I-15 at Miramar Way and drive West to the East Gate.

Tell the guard your intention to attend the Mayflower Meeting at the Officer's Club, and provide them with any information/documents requested.

Proceed West past several intersections. After the Mitscher Way intersection, continue West to Anderson Avenue and then turn right (North). Continue North to near the end, then you will see the Officer's Club on your left (you may park in either the lot before or after the club).



San Diego Colony of Mayflower Descendants

in the State of California

Post Office Box 460482

Escondido CA 92046

Address Requested