

"As one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shone unto many, yea in some sort to our whole nation."

- William Bradford

Pilgrim News

San Diego Colony of Mayflower Descendants

Vol. 1, Issue 3, Governor William "Budd" Leef

April-May, 2025

Governor's Message

Greetings San Diego Colony Members and Friends

Well, it's Spring . . . and to me that means BASEBALL! I'm writing this while camping in the Cuyamacas and just as the Padres are about to become 7-0 to begin the 2025 season (this better not jinx them). So, as you might guess, our family are big Padre fans – even though our kids are now scattered to AZ, NM, WA and Burbank. I'm actually supposed to discuss our Colony here, so to not labor the aforementioned and hugely important topic, I'll just end with "Go

Padres"!

If you missed our February meeting, too bad for you! We had an



audience of 52 Colony members and friends to hear from our guest speaker, Valarie LaBore, as well as her modeling assistant, Shannon Bacon. Together, they provided a very interesting presentation entitled, "History's Revolutionary Fashion, 1740-1910". Both Valarie and Shannon modeled and discussed period clothing from the 18 th and 19 th Centuries: how they were influenced and how they

were constructed for their times.

There were a great number of questions and answers from the attendees – and even the guys participated.

Thanks to all, and we look forward to seeing you all again in May. Our next Colony Meeting is scheduled for May 17 th , and looks to be a very interesting topic. The presentation for that meeting will be by Ms. Karon Jarrod who will discuss Life Story Writing for our future generations. Her program is entitled "Everyone Has a Story".

Our meetings are open to all who are interested in the Mayflower Voyage, as well as general local and American history. We hope to see you in May!

Sincerely Yours,



*Budd Leef
Governor, San Diego Mayflower*



Honor Flight Veteran, Russell Loftman

Mayflower friend, Russel Loftman, was among the veterans honored on a 3 day trip to Washington DC. He served in WWII and Vietnam.

His wife, past Governor Kathleen Loftman met him after the flight. No spouses accompany a veteran on these trips. A great Day!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Colony Meeting Program	Pg. 2
Memory Lane -Jane	
GMSD 2025 Meeting	Pg. 3
GMSD Virtual Programs	
GMSD & America 250	Pg. 4
Patriot to Passenger Portrait	
Sail 250	Pg. 5
Member Story	
February Meeting Photos	Pg. 6
Colony Items	Pg. 7
Meeting Invitation	Pg. 8

May 17, 2025 SD Colony Meeting Program

We are honored to have **Karon Jarrard** as our guest speaker this month. Her passion is Life Story Writing and she will present her program, **“Everyone Has a Story.”**

“Attend and be inspired to write your memories. How good of an ancestor will you be? When your great grandchildren's grandchildren want to know something of you, what will you have left?”

By sharing her life writing experience, Karon will give you the tools and desire to put pen to paper. Capturing your life's memories for generations that follow.



A native of Iowa, Karon moved with her family to San Diego in 1960. After a 25-year career at San Diego Gas & Electric Company,

Karon resigned as manager of a major department to join her husband in retirement.

She was named TWIN Honoree, which is the YWCA's Tribute to Women in Industry.

During retirement, Karon pursued her interest in genealogy and became active in a number of

genealogical societies. She is most active in the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, the largest non-political

women's service organization in the country. Since 1890 members have worked to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. She has served at all levels, including a term as California State Regent 2010–2012 and National Corresponding Secretary General 2013-2016. She has filled three National Chairs – Public Relations & Media, Insignia and Protocol. Mrs. Jarrard continues active participation in DAR.

Committed to literacy, for many years Mrs. Jarrard reads weekly to the Kindergarten class at **Walt Whitman Elementary School** in San Diego. Her hobbies include all needlework. She is a prolific knitter and presents prayer shawls and lap robes to those in need of support.

The Story of Memory Lane *Jane*

“Here's what I know.

I know that Betty Jane Owen, my maternal grandmother, was the only child of a respected family in Portsmouth, Ohio. She was proud of her heritage and wouldn't hesitate to inform you that she was, in fact, a card-carrying member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Daughters of the American Colonists and the Daughters of 1812. Top that!

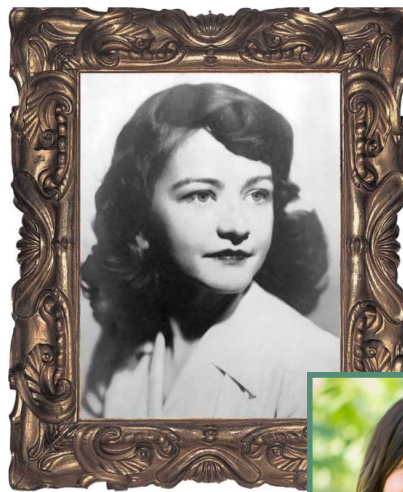
I've been told that throughout her life, Betty Jane wanted nothing more than to make a name for herself. A nurse by profession, she married a distinguished doctor and fancied the finer things in life—jewelry, clothes, decor.

I know she gave birth to three baby girls. I know she was a talented artist. I know she could make delicious pork chops. I also know that life didn't turn out as she hoped. Illness, addiction, depression and despair plagued her waking moments.

Later on, it seems, life eased up on

Betty Jane and she began to soften. I know amends were made and wrongdoings forgiven.

I also know that Betty Jane died when I was in the second grade.



And I know that as much as I “know” about her from second-hand stories, there is so much more I wish I knew. My list of unanswered questions is long.

What was the most difficult thing

that ever happened to you? How did you deal with it?

What were the turning points in your life?

If you could go back and change one thing in your life, what would it be?

My dream as a Life Storyteller is to prevent the “I wish I would have known” or “I wish I could remember” moments in our lives. Instead of having to wonder what life was really like for our family members, friends or colleagues, we have the opportunity right now to ask them face-to-face—to let them tell their story in their words—and to document it in an heirloom book for generations to come. There are countless stories waiting to be told if we would simply take the time to stop, ask and listen before it's too late.”

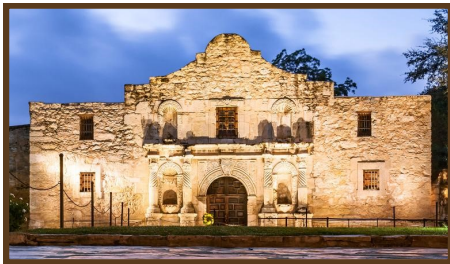


LAUREN BEFUS
Founder & Chief Historian
Be Inspired and [Read More Here](#)

2025 Mayflower Society General Board of Assistants Meeting

**September 4-7, 2015
San Antonio, Texas**

The Mayflower Society invites you to experience the vibrant energy of San Antonio, Texas, where rich history meets modern charm in the heart of the Lone Star State. Picture yourself strolling along the iconic River Walk, discovering unique cultural treasures, and savoring the bold flavors of Tex-Mex cuisine. September in San Antonio brings warm, sunny days perfect for exploring landmarks like the histor-



ic Alamo, above, and one of the UNESCO World Heritage Missions,

the *Mission Concepción*, below, a testament to the city's storied past. Venture to nearby Fredericksburg



to visit the National Museum of the Pacific War, where history comes alive in an engaging and profound way. Immerse yourself in the lively spirit of San Antonio, and let its blend of tradition, culture, and innovation inspire you. San Antonio is not to be missed!

The General Board of Assistants Meeting (GBOA) 2025 is hosted by the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants whose officers and members look forward

to showcasing historic San Antonio and welcoming Mayflower Society members from across the country and around the world to this extraordinary city.

Meeting Hotel:

The Menger Hotel
204 Alamo Plaza,
San Antonio, Texas 78205
Rate is \$169 per night, not including taxes, fees or incidental charges.

The Menger Hotel is 12 minutes from San Antonio International Airport. Transportation to the hotel include car rental, bus, taxi and Uber/Lyft.

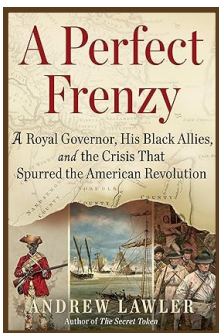
Parking: Valet parking is available for hotel guests for \$30 (plus tax) per day and includes in-and-out privileges. Day or event parking is \$20, plus tax. Both subject to availability.

To book online,
[click here.](#)

The Mayflower Society Virtual Program Schedule

Monday, May 19th at 7 pm EST - "A Perfect Frenzy" - with Andrew Lawler

Most of us know about the battles at Lexington and Concord which took place 250 years ago this spring but Andrew has a fascinating new tale that occurs at the same time, only in Virginia. His latest book is the first to detail the remarkable



alliance formed between the colony's royal governor, Lord Dunmore, and the enslaved Africans owned by its patriots. Dunmore freed and armed those in bondage to fight for King George III, sparking a bloody clash between Black soldiers and

white militia—with each side claiming to fight in the name of liberty. The crisis left one of America's largest ports in ruins and pushed Virginia's patriots to back separation from Britain. This broke the deadlock at the Continental Congress in Philadelphia and led to the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

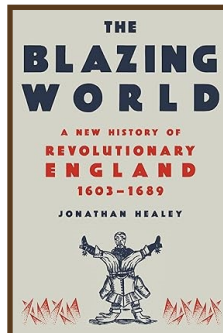
June 17th AT 3PM EST - "The Blazing World: Revolutionary England, 1603-1689" - with Jonathan Healey

The seventeenth century was a revolutionary age for the English. It started as they suddenly found themselves ruled by a Scotsman, and it ended in the shadow of an invasion by the Dutch. Under James I, England suffered terrorism and witch panics. Under his son Charles, state

and society collapsed into civil war, to be followed by an army coup and regicide. For a short time—for the only time in history—England was a republic. There were bitter struggles

over faith and Parliament asserted itself like never before. There were no boundaries to politics. In fiery, plague-ridden London, in coffee shops and alehouses, new ideas were forged that were angry, populist, and almost impossible for monarchs to control.

The Blazing World is the story of this strange, twisting, fascinating century. arrogance, and colonial violence.



Mayflower Members, Become Involved in America 250

As members of the Mayflower Society it is more important than ever to review your lineage and engage in another way to celebrate our country's 250th Anniversary.

"The Patriots to Passenger Project is a growing published [list](#) of Revolutionary War Patriots who descend from *Mayflower* passengers."

I had long known that my



Revolutionary War Patriot, Samuel Reed led to Francis Cooke. I never knew that it had finally been proven

that another minute man patriot I have, Jacob Nash, was now a proven descendant of Stephen Hopkins. This was difficult lineage and required an analysis. It was only discovered through our database.

Review your Mayflower lines and your Revolutionary War lines and go hunting for additional proof of the importance of the Pilgrims and their descendants.

Celebrate: Famous Passengers, Famous Patriots

Deborah Sampson became a hero of the American Revolution when she disguised herself as a man and joined the Patriot forces. She earned a full military pension for participation in the Revolutionary army.

Born on December 17, 1760, in Plympton, Massachusetts. Sampson was one of seven children to Jonathan Sampson Jr. and Deborah (Bradford) Sampson. Both were descendants of preeminent Pilgrims: Jonathan of Myles Standish and Priscilla Alden; his wife, the great granddaughter of Massachusetts Governor William Bradford. Still, the Sampsons struggled financially and, after Jonathan failed to return from a sea voyage, his impoverished wife was forced to place her children in different households. Five years later, at age 10, young Deborah was bound out as an indentured servant to Deacon Benjamin Thomas, a farmer in Middleborough with a large family. At age 18, with her indenture completed, Sampson, who was self-educated, worked as a teacher during summer sessions in 1779 and 1780 and as a weaver in winter.

In 1782, as the Revolutionary War raged on, the patriotic Sampson disguised herself as a man named Robert Shurtleff and joined the Fourth Massachusetts Regiment. At West Point, New York, she was assigned to Captain George Webb's

Company of Light Infantry. She was given the dangerous task of scouting neutral territory to assess British buildup of men and materiel in Manhattan, which General George Washington contemplated attacking. In June of 1782, Sampson and two



sergeants led about 30 infantrymen on an expedition that ended with a confrontation—often one-on-one—with Tories. She led a raid on a Tory home that resulted in the capture of 15 men. At the siege of Yorktown, she dug trenches, helped storm a British redoubt, and endured canon fire.

For over two years, Sampson's true gender had escaped detection despite close calls. When she received a gash in her forehead from a sword

and was shot in her left thigh, she extracted the pistol ball herself. She was ultimately discovered a year and a half into her service—in Philadelphia, when she became ill during an epidemic, was taken to a hospital, and lost consciousness.

Receiving an honorable discharge on October 23, 1783, Sampson returned to Massachusetts. On April 7, 1785, she married Benjamin Gannet from Sharon, and they had three children, Earl, Mary, and Patience. The story of her life was written in 1797 by Herman Mann, entitled *The Female Review: or Memoirs of an American Young Lady*. She received a military pension from the state of Massachusetts. Although Sampson's life after the army was mostly typical of a farmer's wife, in 1802 she began a year-long lecture tour about her experiences—the first woman in America to do so—sometimes dressing in full military regalia.

Four years after Sampson's death at age 66, her husband petitioned Congress for pay as the spouse of a soldier. Although the couple was not married at the time of her service, in 1837 the committee concluded that the history of the Revolution "furnished no other similar example of female heroism, fidelity and courage." He was awarded the money, though he died before receiving it.

National Women's History Museum

The Mayflower Society Celebrates America 250!



Sail250® is a global gathering of tall ships and military ships to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States.

It will offer crews, cadets and visitors from all over the world an unforgettable experience and a world-class maritime celebration.

On July 4, 2026 - America will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

The tall ship *Mayflower II* and other historic vessels will tell our nation's story at celebrations in New Orleans, Norfolk, Baltimore, New York and Boston.

Among America's other historic ships are the USS Constitution, the



Kalmar Nyckel, the *Pride of Baltimore II*, the *Amistad*, and others. Tall ships are great historians and educators. We look forward to telling their stories in the coming months.

The events will offer an extraordinary platform to educate and engage communities with visiting cadets, officers, and crews, and showcase the spirit of international cooperation that has long been a hallmark of maritime tradition.

The six-day celebration will be the culmination of a multi-year platform of storytelling events and diverse celebrations around the region leading into the 4th. ships will join with their American counterparts for a series of inspiring Parades of Sail, an International Naval Review, Fleet Weeks, and extended port visits in five East Coast/Gulf ports.

Our Member, Martha Anderson, & her *Patriot to Passenger* Story

I joined DAR on December 19, 2014. I knew almost nothing about the society, other than it was composed of women who were descended from participants of the Revolutionary War. Because my patriot is John Adams, a famous person, I thought everyone's patriot was well-known, I soon learned this not the case, and that patriots could be from any walk of life until their involvement in the Revolution.

I grew up in Sacramento, living there until 1973 when I moved to San Diego to attend SDSU. My mother had told me about being descended from the Adamses, which meant little to me at the time. The lineage comes through my father, but he rarely talked about his family. I always remembered what my mother told me, however, and it started to mean more to me as I got older. The idea of having an ancestor who was a past president of the United States was strange, but it felt good to know more about my family. As I did discover more about my lineage, it became apparent that my line went back to the *Mayflower*. John Adams

was a descendent of John Alden, two very extraordinary men, and great leaders in their day. Another time my mind was blown!



Martha in the middle, holding grandson Owen, surrounded by Husband Jay and family.

Much is known about John Adams, and I set out to discover Alden's history. "Alden was one of Plymouth Colony's most active public servants and played a prominent role in colonial affairs. He was annually elected to the Governor's Council nearly every year from 1640 to 1686.

He served as Treasurer of Plymouth Colony, Deputy to the General Court of Plymouth, a member of the colony's Council of War, and a member of the colony's Committee on Kennebec Trade, among other posts. He was the last surviving signer of the *Mayflower Compact* upon his death in 1687."

Knowing who one's ancestors are really does make history come alive and feel real in a personal way. Now that I have grandchildren, I want them to know their heritage and help them to feel a part of history. Who knows? Maybe one of them will carry on the legacy of John Adams and John Quincy Adams and become a US President. Wouldn't that be a kick? Time will tell.

I am happily married to my husband Jay since 1979. We have a wonderful family, two grown children and three grandchildren. I retired in 2016 after working in the Chula Vista Elementary School District for 38 years as a speech/language pathologist.

Life is good!

Martha Anderson, Deputy Governor

Winter Meeting, February 15, 2025



Our Pilgrim Cousins and Valerie LaBore

**San Diego Colony
Executive Board
2024-2026**

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Education Chair

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Parliamentarian

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Hospitality Chair

June Carter Starmorn
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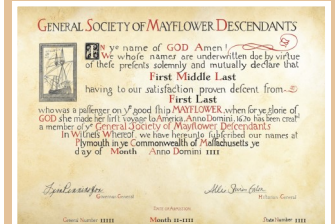
Junior Membership ,Spring Report

2024 was another great year for our California Mayflower Society Juniors. Our state society welcomed thirty-one new Juniors with an age range from newborn to seventeen years old. There were twenty-two sponsors from ten different colonies in California. The sponsors included parents, grandparents and great-grandparents. Congratulations to the San Diego Colony for having the most Junior sponsorships. Is your Junior receiving the November Greeting in the mail and the semi-annual Juniors newsletter by email? If not, please update your Junior's contact information at: jun-iormemberships@camayflower.org.

Amy Conboy, State Junior Membership Chair

**Support the
Mayflower
Meetinghouse Project**

Donors who contribute \$150 will receive one of these exquisite new "Heirloom" Membership Certificates.



This beautiful 16" x 20" certificate, fits perfectly in a 16" x 20" frame or a 20" x 24" frame with a matte background for a distinguished presentation. Please Note: Frame is not included.

This certificate is a true recreation of the Society's original membership certificates, honoring the proud legacy of our lineage and the pioneering spirit of our ancestors. Each certificate is personalized with your Member Name, Member Number, Member Society Name and Number, Date of Admission and your Mayflower passenger ancestor. The certificate also bears the faithfully reproduced signatures of the Governor General and Historian General in office at the time your membership was approved, adding a special touch of historical significance.



Do You Need a Badge



As members, we proudly display our names and the name of our Pilgrim Ancestor.

If you are a new member, a Mayflower Friend, or just need a new badge, follow these steps:

Contact June Carter at starmorn@outlook.com
Include your name, your Ancestor's name, or names. They must be from an application or supplemental that has been verified by Plymouth. If you have several lines of ancestors, please check with June about a possible price increase.

Pay at a meeting or send your check for \$14.00 made payable to, "SD Colony of Mayflower Descendants" to:
**Connie Bloodworth
1005 Norte Vista**

**Congratulations to our New Members
through January 10, 2025**



Barbara Thomas	13th from W. Brewster
Terry Dickinson	12th from W. Brewster
Adam Sullivan	10th from W. Bradford
Laurie (Land) Hahn	12th from S. Hopkins
Barbara Land	12th from S. Hopkins

San Diego Colony of Mayflower Descendants

May 17, 2025 Spring Meeting Invitation and RSVP



Our guest speaker will be Karon Jarrard. She is an active member in the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and has served at all levels, including a term as California State Regent 2010–2012 and National Corresponding Secretary General 2013-2016.

Committed to literacy, for many years Mrs. Jarrard reads weekly to the Kindergarten class at Walt Whitman Elementary School in San Diego. Her hobbies include all needlework. She is a prolific knitter and presents prayer shawls and lap robes to those in need of support.

One of her passions is **Life Story Writing** she will present her program “**Everyone Has a Story**” which details how to capture your life’s memories for generations that follow.

Location: The Green Dragon Tavern and Museum

Just off the I-5 at Palomar Airport Road
6115 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, CA 92011

Date: May 17, 2025

Time: Check in at 11:00 am * Meeting begins @11:30 am

Price: \$42.00 per person

A Buffet Lunch will be Served

Salad of Mixed Greens, Cherry Tomatoes, Carrots, Shaved Red Onion, Cucumber, Honey Apple Balsamic Dressing*

Herb Marinated Roasted Chicken Breast * Pasta Primavera with Bell Peppers, Mushrooms, Zucchini, Squash,

Tomato, & Roasted Garlic Cream * Seasonal Roasted Vegetables with Roasted With Shallots, Onions, and Herbs *

Chocolate Chip Cookie

***Please return this form with your check.
There is no Zelle Payment Option for this Meeting***

Please print your name and membership status - member, prospective member, or guest and the names of those attending with you.

Name(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Total number of persons attending: _____

Is this your first meeting with us? _____ Are you a new member? _____

Payment must be received by May 9, 2025

There is a short grace period until the following Monday if you experience a problem.

Please make checks out to **SDC Mayflower Society**

Mail check and RSVP form to:

Connie Bloodworth
1005 Norte Vista
San Marcos, CA 92078

Contact Connie via email if you require assistance.

cleddyfamily@gmail.com or by phone: (760-815-4676)