

IOWA HAWKEYE

Newsletter of the Iowa Society of Mayflower Decendants

Upcoming Meeting Information



Fall Iowa Mayflower Society Meeting

The Iowa Compact Day meeting will be held Saturday, November 7, 2026, at the Machine Shed Restaurant, 11151 Hickman Road, in Urbandale at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, and vegetable of the day; the main course will be served individually plated. The fixins' served family style, will be cottage cheese, coleslaw, and bread. Beverages included will be coffee, tea, milk, or soda. For those who want a gluten-free option, stuffing and gravy will not be included. The price of the meal will be \$23 per person. Lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m.

Following lunch, guest speaker Jeff Kluever will give a presentation about the Civil War. Mr. Kluever, who writes historical fiction, authored a book titled *Marching Home: A Story of Love, War, and Freedom*. Copies of the book will be for sale at the meeting.

You are welcome to bring a guest. Reservations by email are preferred. Email name(s) of attendees and number of gluten-free meals, if applicable to:

IowaCaptain@iowamayflower.org

or send a text message to [515-491-1270](tel:515-491-1270). So that we can provide a final count to the Machine Shed Restaurant, we need your reservation by Friday, **October 30**, 2026.

We hope you'll be able to attend.



**MAKE YOUR
RESERVATION**

General Society Officers

Deputy Governor General
(D.G.G.) -
Kenneth R Callison, Sr.

Assistant General (A.G.)-
Linda Cassmann - Randall

Iowa Mayflower Society Officers 2026- 2029

Governor-
Mark Church

Deputy Governor -
Kristine Bartley

Secretary -
Lisa Lang

Treasurer -
Gerald M. Graves

Historian –
Lori Reynolds

Assistant Historian -
Shawn Albaugh Kleppe

Captain -
Jackie Peters

Elder -
Kenneth R. Callison, Sr

Surgeon -
Barbara Clayton, RN

Counselor -
Bernadine McGuire

Iowa Society of Mayflower Descendants

Spring Meeting - Saturday, May 2, 2026

The Iowa Society of Mayflower Descendants Spring Meeting was held Saturday, May 2, 2026, at the Machine Shed Restaurant, 11151 Hickman Road, Urbandale, IA.

Meeting Called to order at 11:02 a.m. by Deputy Governor Mark Church

Pledge of Allegiance led by Captain, Jackie Peters

Invocation by Elder, Kenneth Callison

Introduction of all members and guests.

Self-introductions were made by members and guests.

Approval of Minutes/Secretary's Report - Lisa Lang

The minutes from the Compact Day Meeting on November 1, 2025, were printed in the Spring 2026 Newsletter. Ken Callison moved and Jill Warner seconded to approve the minutes as presented in the Spring newsletter. The minutes from the November 1, 2025, Compact Meeting were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Gerald Graves

The treasurer's report will be attached to the minutes and filed for review. We are in good shape financially. We are still doing online payments or snail mail for dues. We paid our performance bond. We no longer need our Silver Books that are owned by the Iowa Society, and we are donating them to the Iowa Genealogical Society and the Ames Public Library.

Historian's Report – Lori Reynolds

In the absence of the Historian, Mark Church read the Historian's Report.

346 members as of December 31, 2025

3 new members to date

4 pending members

1 supplemental

7 reinstated

0 transferred out

0 Transferred in

4 deaths

2 Resignations

350 members currently

Necrology Report: Those who have passed since Spring Meeting 2025-Spring Meeting 2026.

Nora Lee Steinbrech, Ann Anderson, Sallyann Orf and Joyce Welbourne

The Necrology Report was presented by Elder, Ken Callison.

Junior Membership: Jill Warner

Jill brought Junior Member applications with her and has them available. When we get a new Jr Member, Jill sends a welcome package with a book and a bookmark appropriate for age level.

We have 10 new Junior members this year.

- Total Number of Juniors – 259
- Number of Juniors age 25 – 11
- • Number of Juniors age 18-25 – 115
- • Number of Juniors age 17-18 -- 33

Scholarship Committee - Lisa Lang, Linda Cassmann-Randall, Jill Warner

Lisa Lang reported that there were three outstanding applicants this year. The topic for the 2026 essay was: "Carrying the Pilgrim Legacy: How My Mayflower Heritage Shapes Who I Am". A panel of three judges—a University of Iowa professor, a retired public school superintendent, and a high school English Teacher reviewed the essays, letters of recommendation, and activities. They shared how impressed they were with the overall quality of applicants. Kelsey Johnston from Roland-Story High School was selected as the

2026 Iowa Mayflower Scholarship recipient. She will receive a \$1000 scholarship. Kelsey was present at today's meeting, and she was introduced and recognized for her accomplishments. Her mother, Lori Johnston and her grandmother, Maxine Coffman are members of the Iowa Mayflower Society. Her Mayflower ancestors are James Chilton, Francis Cooke, Edward Fuller and John Howland. Lisa Lang, Secretary, encouraged all who have a lineal blood relative (grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews) to apply for next year's scholarship.

Newsletter & Website - James Murphy

Send any info or news to be included in the newsletter to:

newsletter@iowamayflower.org

Check out our Iowa Mayflower Society website. www.iowamayflower.org

Reading of the Mayflower Compact - Captain, Jackie Peters

Number of Descendants - Captain, Jackie Peters

John Alden 2	Mary (Chilton) Winslow 0	Richard More 0
Pricilla (Mullins) Alden 2	Francis Cooke 12	William Mullins 2
Bartholomew Allerton 0	John Cooke 1	Degory Priest 1
Isaac Allerton 1	Edward Doty 3	Joseph Rogers 1
Mary (Norris) Allerton 1	Francis Eaton 1	Thomas Rogers 1
Mary (Allerton) Cushman 0	Samuel Eaton 0	Henry Samson 1
Remember (Allerton) Maverick 1	Sarah Eaton 0	George Soule 6
Elinor Billington 0	Moses Fletcher 0	Myles Standish 2
Francis Billington 0	Edward Fuller 7	Elizabeth (Tilley) Howland 4
John Billington 1	Mrs. Fuller (Wife of Edward) 0	John Tilley 2
William Bradford 0	Samuel Fuller (Son of Edward) 0	Joan (Hurst) Tilley 2
Love Brewster 4	Samuel Fuller (Brother of Edward) 0	Richard Warren 5
Mary Brewster 3	Constance (Hopkins) <u>Snow 4</u>	Peregrine White 0
William Brewster 6	Giles Hopkins 1	Resolved White 0
Peter Browne 1	Stephen Hopkins 5	Susanna (Jackson)White <u>Winslow 0</u>
James Chilton 6	Elizabeth (Fisher) Hopkins 0	William White 2
Mrs. Chilton (Wife of James) 0	John Howland 10	Edward Winslow 0

Francis Cooke had the most with 12 descendants present.

Dismissal for lunch was at 11:42 a.m.

Lunch Prayer – Elder, Kenneth Callison

Speaker Introduction - Deputy Governor, Mark Church

Our guest speaker was Governor General Lisa Pennington. She was accompanied by her husband, David Furlow. She spoke to the membership about The Pilgrim Story. She spoke how the Pilgrims were ordinary people who did extraordinary things. They came to America for religious freedom, to escape poverty and to escape a coming war. These are the same reasons immigrants have been coming to America for over 400 years. The General Society of Mayflower Descendants was founded in 1897 to honor and preserve the Pilgrim legacy. From the beginning, education was the main goal of the Society and to educate the American Citizens about the Pilgrim Story.

The Iowa Mayflower Society presented her with a check for \$5,000 to be used for the Mayflower Meetinghouse Project in Plymouth. Judy Stumbo presented the Governor General with a pewter plate depicting the birthplace of Mamie Eisenhower in Boone, IA. Although Mrs. Eisenhower was not a member of the Mayflower Society, it has been documented that she is descendent of William Brewster. David Furlow was presented with a John Wayne shot glass to commemorate John Wayne's birthplace in Winterset, IA.



Election of Officers

A slate of candidates for the officers of the Iowa Mayflower Society for the term 2026-2029 was presented as follows:

Governor – Mark Church
Deputy Governor – vacant
Secretary – Lisa Lang
Treasurer – Gerald Graves
Historian – Lori Reynolds
Assistant Historian – Shawn Albaugh Kleppe
Captain – Jackie Peters
Elder – Kenneth Callison, Sr.
Surgeon – Barbara Clayton
Counselor – Bernie McGuire
Junior Membership – Jill Warner
Newsletter Editor – Jim Murphy



Officers were elected by acclamation. Governor General Lisa Pennington performed the installation of our new officers.

Closing Prayer – Elder, Kenneth Callison

Adjournment by Deputy Governor, Mark Church

Meeting Adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: Compact Day Meeting November 7, 2026

Submitted by Lisa Lang, Secretary

2027 Iowa Mayflower Society Scholarship

SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

The applicant must descend from one of the Mayflower passengers who came to America in 1620. The applicant need not be a member of the Iowa Society, but application must include a valid Iowa Mayflower Society membership number for a blood relative of the applicant. Please note that the membership number supplied must be for a living and currently active Iowa Mayflower Society member. The Mayflower ancestor and the sponsor's name, relationship to the applicant, and member's Iowa Mayflower Society number must be included.

The applicant must be a high school senior or a home school student who is the equivalent of a senior. Following graduation, the applicant must attend an accredited university, college, junior college, community college, or certified trade school.

A 500-word original typed or word-processed essay that includes a bibliography of at least two sources must be Included. The topic for the 2027 essay will be: **“My Mayflower Ancestor and Me”**

Identify your Mayflower passenger ancestor and explore that person's story. Your essay should go beyond a general biography of your Mayflower ancestor. **We want to hear your story as well as your ancestor's.**

Include:

- How you are related to this Mayflower passenger and what you know about the generations connecting your family to that individual.
- At least one specific fact, event, document, family story, or discovery about your ancestor or your family's Mayflower lineage that you found particularly interesting or meaningful. Explain **why** it mattered to you.

Your personal reflection on what this family connection means to you. Has learning about your ancestor changed the way you think about your family, American history, or your own role in carrying that history forward?

Most importantly, let us hear your voice. We are interested not simply in what happened to your ancestor nearly 400 years ago, but in what that history means to you today.

Application and submission of all requirements is due March 1, 2027. Essays will be evaluated on historical accuracy, adherence to topic, organization of material, originality, bibliography, grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

Application must include at least two letters of recommendation from non-family members. The letters should include identification of the writer along with a home or business address, the relationship with the student and length of time he/she has known the student, and the student's qualities, which make the student an appropriate candidate for consideration.

A list including GPA, community service, school and/or church, or any activities of importance should be provided. These activities are not mandatory but are factors that may be considered.

One student will be chosen from the applications and will be notified by April 1, 2027.

A \$1,000.00 scholarship will be paid to the post-high school institution the student attends after the first semester/term is completed.

A relative of the applicant will not be selected as a judge in the rating of applications.

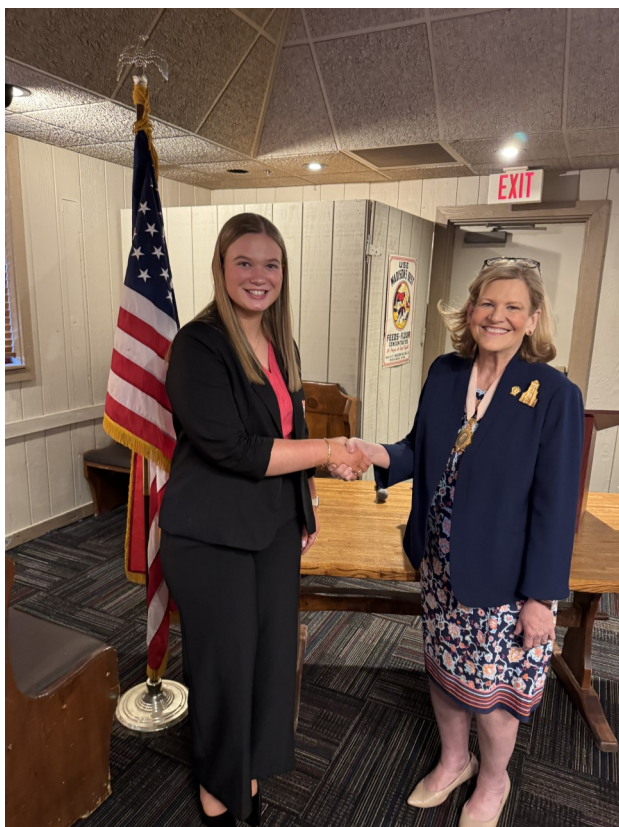
STEP 1: Complete this google form.

STEP 2: Email your 500-word essay (including bibliography)

STEP 3: Writers of your letters of recommendation: must be emailed directly from writer.

STEPS 2 & 3 must be emailed to: scholarship@iowamayflower.org

ALL 3 STEPS MUST BE COMPLETED BY MARCH 1, 2027



Meet Kelsey Johnston

Kelsey Johnston from Roland-Story High School was selected as the 2026 Iowa Mayflower Scholarship recipient. She will receive a \$1000 scholarship. Kelsey was present at our May 2, 2026 meeting, and she was introduced and recognized for her accomplishments. Pictured here with Lisa Pennington.

HISTORIAN REPORT – November 7, 2026

Welcome New Members

Cretin, Isaac James	Isaac Allerton
Sotelo, Lisa Sue	John Howland
Bahl, Kathy Jo	John Howland

Necrology Report

None reported

HISTORIAN ACTIVITY - 2026:

Total membership as of December 31, 2025	346
New Members approved in 2026	5
New members pending at GSMD for approval	7
Supplementals approved in 2026	2
Membership Interest (MLM or Lineage Form from website)	26
Reinstated members	9
Resigned members	2
Transferred in	0
Transferred Out	0
Deaths reported in 2026	2
Current Membership	356

Lori Reynolds
Iowa Mayflower Society Historian

2027 IOWA MAYFLOWER SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM – 2027

2026 memberships expire at the end of 2026. You may also renew your membership in the membership area of our website: IowaMayflower.org

_____ 2027 Annual Dues are \$45 before Dec 31, 2026.-- When paid after Dec 31, 2026 they are \$50 which includes the reinstatement fee.

_____ Friends of the Iowa Mayflower Society \$15 annual (Available to spouses, adopted, or foster children of an Iowa member)

_____ I want my Iowa newsletter mailed by postal mail to my permanent address below rather than emailed.

_____ I want my Iowa membership card mailed by postal mail rather than e-mailed.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

9-digit Zip Code _____ Phone _____

E-mail for newsletter _____

Send check **payable to Iowa Mayflower Society** to:

Gerald M. Graves, Treasurer

28249 360th St.

Van Meter, IA. 50261-6011

****Life members, 50-year members, and junior members in the Iowa Society do not pay annual dues. (New life membership have not been available for several years.)**

****Active duty military members are exempt from annual dues, but need to complete this form and indicate their branch of service on January 1, 2027.**

****The first full calendar year of membership dues for new members after membership approval has already been included in the membership application fee. So no additional dues are needed for the first 12-23 months depending on membership approval date.**

Murphy's Law of Genealogy

Two years of research later, you have finally found the information you have been searching for, and an elderly relative turns round and says "Yes, I knew that!"

