

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

Thank you to James for all his work on the newsletter and website!

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) Snow 4	Peregrine White 0
William Brewster 6	Giles Hopkins 1	Resolved White 0
Peter Browne 1	Stephen Hopkins 5	Susanna (Jackson)White Winslow 0
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**