



Fall Luncheon

Our guest speaker, GSMD Governor General Lisa Pennington will present her program "Telling the Pilgrim Story". She earned her BA and JD at the University of Texas and practiced commercial and employment litigation for thirty-four years. She was the Managing Partner of her firm's Houston office for twenty years until she retired in 2018. In 2006 she was the Co-Founder of the University Of Texas Center for Women in Law. She and her husband, David Furlow, have three children and four grandchildren. Lisa joined the Texas Mayflower Society in 2000 and has held numerous positions in the Houston Colony. She joined the Massachusetts Society in 2019 and is also a Charter Member of the Australian Society. Her Mayflower passengers are Isaac, Mary (Norris) and Remember Allerton. Lisa was an Executive Committee Member-at-Large for the 2017-2020 term and served as GSMD Counsellor General for the 2020-2023 term. In both of those positions she provided important legal support for numerous Society concerns. She also initiated the Mayflower History and Genealogy lecture series, giving many of the presentations herself and recruiting outside experts to expand the quality and public awareness of the lectures. She also serves as a Trustee for the National Pilgrim Memorial Meeting-house and is committed to its development and future role in telling the Pilgrim story. She is a Charter Member of the Governor General's 1620 Club.

Fall Meeting & Luncheon with Governor General Lisa Pennington Woodstock Club, Saturday, November 22, 2025 11:00 AM

RSVP

[ISMD Fall Luncheon Eventbrite](#)

Fall Luncheon Menu

- Sliced turkey breast with stuffing, green beans, and mashed potatoes. Gravy and cranberry relish served on the side
OR
- Roasted Vegetable Napoleon; roasted seasonal vegetables topped with Tomato Coulis and Balsamic Caramel
- Dessert: (pick one)
Pumpkin Pie
OR
Bowl of Fresh Berries with Maraschino Cherry Syrup and Honey GF
- Luncheon served with house salad, Rolls, Butter, Tea, Coffee, and Lemonade.
- Children's Menu: Chicken fingers, fries and small ice cream sundae
- Cost of the luncheon will be \$55 for adults or \$25 for children (age 10 and under).
- EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT of \$5 per reservation received by Oct 30!! Applies to both mailed and EventBrite reservations

Pre-paid reservations are due by Saturday, November 6, 2025 and can be mailed to Erica Gould 2436 Hopwood Dr Carmel, In 46032. Cancellations are required by Sat., November 15th and can be made by contacting Erica Gould via email: etgould@yahoo.com.

On the reservation, you may specify vegetarian, gluten or dairy free only.

Note: this is your only notice of this event. Please respond by due date. Please complete the reservation form on page 11 & send check to address noted or **RSVP online clicking on the following link:**

[ISMD Fall Luncheon Eventbrite](#)

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Governor's Message

Dr. Laura Smith—Indiana Society Governor



Dear Indiana Mayflower members,

As I sit down to write my final Governor's message, I really cannot believe it has been nearly three years since I became Governor. This experience has helped me grow as a person, and for that, I will be forever grateful. I want to thank my family, especially my parents, for the love and support they've given me. I also want to thank my Grandma Verna Jean Adnson Rehlander, who let me sit at the table as a small child and listen to the stories of my extended family, which started a passion for learning about my ancestors and a journey to our Mayflower ancestors.

In May, I went to the Ohio annual Mayflower meeting in Cincinnati, which was held at Great Wolf Lodge. My dad, sister Alicia, her husband Ryan, nephew Lincoln, brother Austin, and niece Harper got to enjoy the water park while Mom and I spent

the day with our old and new Ohio friends.

This summer, Mom and I traveled to Maine, and while we were there, we realized we have come full circle and visited all of the places our Mayflower ancestors lived in their journey from Plymouth to LaPorte, Indiana. It was a special trip filled with contemplation about how much family has impacted my life.

I then traveled with Mom and Treasurer Chase Slaughter to San Antonio in September for the GSMD's Board of Assistants meeting. We spent the first part of the week sightseeing and the end of the week reconnecting with so many people who inspire me with their talent and the depth of their commitment to our Society. As usual, Chuck Provost and Tom Botts were also at GBOA, participating in the Mayflower Guard and representing the Indiana Society.

As many of you know, I have a deep passion for DNA and its use in genealogy. I was honored to be chosen to be on the Mayflower DNA committee, and it was doubly sweet when my mom was chosen as well. We have been working hard on a mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) project with Peter Brown's family for over two years. Peter Brown's granddaughter Mary Snow was alive when her father died, but no marriage record exists for her. The committee hypothesized that Mary (maiden name unknown) who married John Rickard, could be Mary Snow because two of Mary Snow's sisters married two of John Rickard's brothers. By testing multiple people in both lineages, and all of the testers having a very rare mtDNA, I was able to write an article for the Mayflower Descendant that will be published in the Summer 2025 issue. We hope this is the first of many articles that help uncover lost secrets and give voices to our ancestors.

I am beyond excited to welcome Governor General Lisa Pennington and her husband David Furlow to the Indiana Society for our fall meeting. Lisa and I met in 2018 at the GBOA and have chatted at every event we've attended since then. Her program will be on "Telling the Pilgrim Story." She's done a wonderful job with our YouTube channel ([General Society of Mayflower Descendants - YouTube](#)) to educate our members and the general public on the history of Plymouth Colony. I saw on Facebook this week that she was recording a video on the 1621 Thanksgiving with a period tablescape that looked just like it would have over 400 years ago.

I've been asked by several Mayflower friends if I've thought about how I will continue to be involved in our Society as a past Governor, and while I've thought about it, I don't really have an answer yet. However, I know I can continue to look to Past Governors Dick Gould, Kathryn Lerch, Sarah Weddle, Laura Stocker, Linda McGlothlin, and Deb Givan for inspiration and guidance. I want to thank each and every one who has served with me, both as Governor and Historian since 2013. I cherish the friendships I have with all of you, and you are what has made these three years extraordinary.

All my best,



Our Indiana Mayflower Society Officers and Board

Governor: Dr. Laura Smith
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Past Governors

Dick Gould, Scholarship
 Kathryn Lerch
 Sarah Weddle
 Jack Buck
 Laura Stocker
 Linda McGlothlin Scholarship
 Deb Givan Alonso

Assistants

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A Pilgrim in the Schools program director is needed to promote and administer the program to our Indiana Schools.

If interest, please contact
 Governor Laura Smith at
indianamayflower@gmail.com

☞ Would you like to learn more about our Society? Did you know that Board Meetings are open to any Indiana member?

If you are interested in attending, please email Governor Laura Smith at indianamayflower@gmail.com and she will send you an invitation. Our meetings will be at the Woodstock Club!

Spring Members' Luncheon Highlights

"Horticulture in Plymouth Colony"

April 19, 2025

**GARDNER
BOB ALONSO**



**CERTIFICATE OF COMEDATION
TO BRIGITT CAITO**



**ISMD NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME!!**



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Spring Members' Luncheon Highlights

"Horticulture in Plymouth Colony"

April 19, 2025



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Historian's Report Welcome New Members!!!!

Jason King (E Doty)

approved 7 Mar 2025 GS 106722 IN 1726

Margarete Jones (I Allerton)

approved 21 Mar 2025 GS 106745 IN 1727

Mallory Michael (E Brewster)

approved 21 Mar 2025 GS 106790 IN 1728

Geoffrey L Bradley (S Fuller)

approved 6 June 2025 GS 106929 IN 1729

Walter W Nims (H Samson)

approved 6 June 2025 GS 106930 IN 1730

Gail L Williams (E Fuller)

approved 17 June 2025 GS 106992 IN 1731

John Wilson (G Soule)

approved 17 June 2025 GS 106993 IN 1732

Elizabeth Dingman (F Cooke)

approved 1 Jul 2025 GS 107053 IN 1733

Joanne Vetter (R Warren)

approved 11 Jul 2025 GS 107083 IN 1734

Daniel Li Graham (M Standish)

approved 18 Jul 2025 GS 107105 IN 1735

Charles Fisher (J Bradford)

approved 19 Aug 2025 GS 107233 IN 1736

Amanda Booher (E Doty)

approved 29 Aug 2025 GS 107265 IN 1737

Gregory Cislak (J Alden)

approved 29 August 2025 GS 107266 IN 1738

Supplements

Sharon Coble (J Howland)

approved 4 Apr 2025 GS 106444 (S)IN 1718

Steven Rowe (E Tilley)



Application in Plymouth

Original Applications

Mark Armour
Brian Chelius
Laura Long Brezindene
Maargaret Schammert

Supplements Applications

Lawrence Hasenstab
Roberta Caito

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Mayflower Celebration The Indiana Society of Mayflower Descendants 2025 Scholarship Recipients



Corbin Casassa

Corbin Casassa, son of Tony and Jill Casassa, is a descendant of Isaac Allerton and the grandson of ISMD member Ann Lyman. Corbin is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Tennessee Tech University. He is also part of Tennessee Tech's Baja SAE team, where they design, build, and race their Baja car. Corbin's goal is to have an impactful career in the automotive industry.



Julia Hardacre

Julia Hardacre is the daughter of Joe and Suzanne Hardacre. She is the granddaughter of ISMD member Diane Ruth Shirley and a descendant of John Howland. Julia is attending the University of Dayton with a major in biology. Her future goals are to enter medical school. She wants to study to be a physician and realize her dream of working with and using biological concepts to help others with their health and well-being.



Monique Caraman

Monique Caraman is the daughter of Emanuel and Kristiana Caraman. She is the granddaughter of ISMD member Laverne Blowers and a descendant of John Howland. Monique is a junior at Ashbury University. An honors student, she is studying media communications with an emphasis in production design and a minor in history. Monique enjoys creative and artistic endeavors and loves international travel and cultural experiences.

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Indiana Deputy Governor General Report

The 2025 GBOA was held in San Antonio September 4-7th

GSMD continues to post material on their YouTube Channel, [General Society of Mayflower Descendants - YouTube](#) Governor General Lisa Pennington is planning a Thanksgiving video, a video on the four uses of the earliest Meetinghouse-Fort, Church, Meetinghouse, and Courthouse, a video on the 1638 trial of Arthur Peachtree who killed an indigenous person, and a video on Pilgrims in Love for Valentine's Day.

The Texas Society, in conjunction with Plimoth Patuxet Museums, is creating six educational videos for school children. The one on Sovereignty was shown at the meeting and is fabulous. These videos will be available to all members once completed.

This Executive Committee has worked hard to create new incentives for members, increase efficiency, and reduce costs for sustainability. Some newer member benefits include discounts for Storyworth, a membership to the New England Historic and Genealogical Society (NEHGS) or Plimoth Patuxet Museum, and exclusive access to FreeWill.

12 Silver Books are in progress, with Desire Howland, Alden 7 (Rebecca Alden Delano) and Rogers 4 being the closest to publication. The Thomas Rogers Society has agreed to fund the last two Thomas Rogers silver books, which include the 6th generation and name the 7th generation.

Indexing applications are progressing quickly with the start of Turbo indexing...as of GBOA, 52,440 of the 131,000 applications and supplements of the Society have been certified and are in the Virtual Vault.

Executive Director Mark Schmidt retired in early summer, and his executive assistant, Cheryl Soares, has accepted the position of Executive Director. She is our first ED who is also a member of GSMD.

The DNA committee has written an article that has been accepted for publication by the Mayflower Descendant that is entitled "Was John Rickard's Wife Mary Snow the Granddaughter of Peter Brown?

DNA Results Offer Additional Evidence." Indiana members Laura and Pam Smith were two of the authors.

Nine amendments to the bylaws were reviewed and approved by the GBOA to be voted on next year at Congress. Most were updates to our bylaws to reflect current practices and clarify elections for the MAL position.

Future national events:

The 2026 & 2029 Congress are in Plymouth, MA.

The 2027 GBOA is in Atlanta, GA.

The 2028 GBOA is in northern CA wine country (no city named)

The 2030 GBOA is in Williamsburg, VA.

Meetinghouse

More than half of the needed funds (>5 million) have been donated to the Meetinghouse.

Construction will begin soon on the side entrance, and sprinklers will also be installed in this phase.

The rest of the needed funds will be used to restore the remainder of the sanctuary, create the movies and exhibits to tell the story, and to establish the endowment to fund the Meetinghouse expenses for future generations.

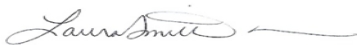
GSMD continues to have giving opportunities for the Meetinghouse restoration. Visit the GSMD website for more information. [The Mayflower Meetinghouse Project - General Society of Mayflower Descendants \(themayflowersociety.org\)](#)

Upcoming Mayflower Virtual Lecture series:

No lectures are scheduled on the website; however, the 2021-2025 completed lectures are available to view on demand on the website and are password protected. [Lecture Series - General Society of Mayflower Descendants \(themayflowersociety.org\)](#)

Indiana board member Erica Gould was recognized for her outstanding years of service to our Indiana Society

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Smith, Indiana Deputy Governor General



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Mayflower Notes

The Mayflower Compact Fellowship

Our society strives to provide our members and our scholarship recipients with meaningful education on our Pilgrim ancestors and to build fellowship among our members. Our work has brought benefit to thousands of our members and hundreds of school-aged and college-aged students. To better connect our members to the purpose of our society, we have created a giving program called the Mayflower Compact Fellowship.

The Mayflower Compact Fellowship will exist to help the society continue to support our mission. Gifts made through the Fellowship will support our Governor’s Fund, which is used for every activity of our Society. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution of \$250 to become a member of the Mayflower Compact Fellowship.

This Fellowship will last one calendar year from the date gift was made. Fellows will also receive a Mayflower Compact Fellowship pin and a certificate which will be presented at the following Luncheon or mailed directly to recipient.

ISMD has officially created an endowment for our scholarship fund! This will allow the Society to continue to support our members and their students!

Look for updates on ways to give to the Mayflower Compact Fellowship or the Scholarship Endowment Fund online or complete the form below!

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The Mayflower Compact Fellowship
Donor Information

Name: _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____

Zip Code: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Email:** _____

Pay by: Cash Check Credit Card (please pay online at indianamayflower.org/donate)

Anonymous? Y/N **Name for recognition (recipient)** _____

Please fill out if recipient is **DIFFERENT** from donor:

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____

Zip Code: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Email:** _____

Bring this form to a luncheon or mail to Erica Gould – 2436 Hopwood Dr. Carmel, IN 46032



Mayflower Notes

Did you know that a reward program can help our Indiana Mayflower Society?

Our members can register online by finding the [Kroger Community Rewards website](#), selecting our organization with the code TU674, and choosing their home Kroger store.

Questions? Contact Erica Gould etgould@yahoo.com



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Dear Members,
Your financial donations to ISMD provide approximately one-half of the revenues needed to fund our Society's activities. Donations are needed to pay for our Luncheon Programs, invitations, postage, newsletters and delegate expenses to represent Indiana at annual General Society Meetings. Our three outside activities include placing books in libraries, Pilgrim in the Schools and our Scholarship Program. Please consider making annual contributions to ISMD and please include ISMD in your long term, intentional donation plans. All donations to ISMD are fully tax deductible by the donor as a 501©3 charitable, educational society. Donations can be paid using PayPal on our website <https://indianamayflower.org/donate/> or mail donations to:

Chase Slaughter ISMD Treasurer, 1723 Ramsey Ln. Plainfield, IN 46168

Or

Dick Gould, ISMD Assistant Treasurer, 2436 Hopwood Dr, Carmel, IN 46032



ATTENTION, MAYFLOWER STUDENTS AND FAMILY

Don't forget to apply for the Indiana Mayflower Merit Scholarship.

This scholarship is open to any current high school senior, as well as students currently enrolled in post-secondary education.

Share this information with any family member, who may be eligible for this scholarship

Please visit our website and download an application at

www.indianamayflower.org/events-news/scholarship-applications.

All applications must be received by February 1, 2026.

Scholarships information from the General Society of Mayflower Descendants is available on the website, www.themayflowersociety.org.

Mayflower Notes

Calendar

Nov 22, 2025 **Fall Membership Meeting 11:00 AM**
Mar 7, 2026 **Spring Board Meeting 10:30 AM**
April 18, 2026 **Spring Membership Meeting 11:30 AM**
Sep 19, 2026 **Fall Board Meeting 10:30 AM**
Nov 21 2026 **Fall Membership Meeting 11:30**

(All dates tentative)

What's your Pilgrim Moment?

If you would like to share your Pilgrim Moment in our newsletter, please send it to Tom at editor.thehoosiermayflower@gmail.com.

Don't forget to send in your reservation by mail or online
Hope to see everyone at our Fall Luncheon.

Please mail in your reservation form with payments.

or

We have the option to **RSVP** online via Eventbrite. Please note that Eventbrite charges a small convenience fee that will be attached to your order. Early Bird Discount when reservation is received by Oct 30th. Please **RSVP** using the following link:

[ISMD Fall Luncheon Eventbrite](#)

Luncheon Reservation Form

Indiana Society of Mayflower Descendants Meeting & Luncheon

Where: Woodstock Club, 1301 W. 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208

When: Saturday, November 22, 2025 11:00 AM meeting, luncheon to follow

I/We Reserve _____ place(s) at The Woodstock Club for luncheon at \$55 per adult and \$25 for age 10 and younger.

Main course # _____ **Turkey #** _____ **Vegetable Napoleon** **Dessert: #** _____ **Mixed Berries** **#** _____ **Pumpkin Pie**

Child's menu # _____

Please specify vegetarian, gluten or dairy free only. Please write name(s) of attendees and their meal preference below.

Name(s) _____

Telephone _____ **Email Address** _____

Amount Enclosed _____ (Check payable to IN Society of Mayflower Descendants)

Please reply by November 6, 2025 to Erica Gould 2436 Hopwood Dr Carmel, IN 46032

I will contact you via email to confirm receipt of your reservation



MEMBER UPDATES: Please send updates to us with changes in your family member's status if they are current Indiana Mayflower members. Changes include address/email, names or any death (obituary or email notice with date and location).

SEND INFORMATION TO: Diana McDowell, Corresponding Secretary at dsmcdowell@att.net

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Address Correction Requested

