

THE HOOSIER MAYFLOWER

www.indianamayflower.org

Spring 2026



Spring Meeting and Luncheon “Meet the Pilgrims”

You know them as monuments and myths, but in this session, we will get to know the Pilgrims as people! Understand their family ties, their jobs, their hopes and their failures. Learn how our Pilgrim ancestors made gut-wrenching decisions while fleeing from England to Holland and finally to the New World where they survived to help found a new nation!

Lori Coffey is a storyteller with one foot in the archives and the other in the future, she teaches history and tools for genealogy. With a 25-year career as a writer, trainer, and tech guru, she has spent decades demystifying complex tools for others. As History Evangelist and a family genealogist for more than 50 years, Lori specializes in uncovering the forgotten details of hidden heroes from the past like the Pilgrims. Today, she merges these passions to create fun, highly visual training that breathes new life into little-known history. When she isn't helping students navigate the digital frontier or serving as President of the Pinellas Genealogy Society in Florida, she is likely digging through archives or prompting AI to help write yet another family biography. Lori's ancestors are John, Elinor & Francis Billington, George Soule, Edward Doty, Richard Warren, Thomas & Joseph Rogers, Isaac, Mary and little Mary Allerton

**Spring Meeting &
Luncheon at
Woodstock Club,
Saturday, April 11,
2026
Gather: 11:00 AM
Meeting : 11:30**

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Spring Luncheon Menu

- Sugar Shack Pork Tenderloin
Marinated in Soy, Maple & Molasses and grilled. Glazed with Ruby Port & Veal Jus, served with Mashed Potatoes and Asparagus (GF,DF)
OR
 - Woodstock Chicken Piccata
Seared parmesan cheese crusted chicken with lemon caper cream sauce (GF)
OR
 - Roasted Vegetable Napoleon
Roasted Seasonal Vegetables layered with Chevre Cheese topped with Tomato Provencal Coulis and Balsamic Caramel (V)
- Dessert:
- Key Lime Tart: Graham Crust, whipped Chantilly Cream & Raspberry Sauce
OR
 - Bowl of Fresh Seasonal Fruit
 - Children's Menu: Chicken fingers, fries, fruit cup & small Sundae

Luncheon served with house salad, Rolls, Butter, Tea, Coffee, and Lemonade. Cost of the luncheon will be \$50 for adults or \$25 for children (age 10 and under).

* Through March 20th, please use discount code **ISMDEARLY** for \$5 off per ticket via online or on the reservation form on the next page. Please RSVP online OR by mailing the form no later than March 27, 2026.

SPRING LUNCHEON

April 11, 2026 Woodstock Club. Indianapolis, IN

Note: this is your only notice of this event—no invitation is being mailed separately. Please respond by due date. Reservations are due by Friday, March 27, 2026 via mailing in the form below or registering online

[at this link.](#)

If you need to cancel after this date, we cannot guarantee a full refund of your registration cost. An early bird discount code of \$5 per ticket, **ISMDEARLY**, may be applied to reservations made through Friday April 20.

Our online registration form is a new-to-us software we are testing that will ask for a tip at the end with your order. Please feel free to not tip – this platform is free for nonprofits and the tip you are providing is to the software company.

Questions or cancellations, contact the ISMD Hospitality Team:
ismdhospitality@gmail.com.

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Luncheon Reservation Form

Indiana Society of Mayflower Descendants Meeting & Luncheon

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

When: Saturday, April 11, 2026 11:30 am meeting, luncheon to follow

I/We Reserve _____ place(s) at The Woodstock Club for luncheon at \$50 per adult and \$25 for age 10 and younger.

Entrée: # ___ Pork Tenderloin # ___ Chicken Piccata # ___ Roasted Vegetable Napoleon

Dessert: # ___ Key Lime Tart # ___

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)

Discount code (if paying by April 20): _____

Please reply by March 27, 2026 to Erica Gould 2436 Hopwood Dr. Carmel, IN 46032

Governor's Message

Thomas (Tom) Botts—Indiana Society Governor



Dear Indiana Mayflower members,

Hi Everyone.

Wow, I am the Governor of the Indiana Society of Mayflower Descendants. You may have heard or seen my name as the editor of "The Hoosier Mayflower", now I am proud to serve as your Governor. My wife, searching into my family history, has been instrumental in our discovery of 8 Mayflower passenger descendants.

I joined the society in 2018 and served on the board from 2019. I have been the editor since 2020. I am excited to work with our board members to spread the history of our Pilgrim ancestors. Their harrowing sea voyage and their hardship to settle in a new land. But who were these men and women? Let's explore their stories.

I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy "Love Stories of Pilgrims" on Valentine Day. We are able to remotely have Lori Coffey and her program "Meet the Pilgrims" at our spring meeting.

GMSD Congress is Sept 11-16 in Plymouth, MA; all are welcome to attend. Please notify Laura, Chuck, or me if you plan to attend the Congress and visit Plymouth. Registration begins on March 2 and can be done on the website (<https://themayflowersociety.org>) . I would be happy to see you all there!

All members of ISMD can join any board meetings. We are always encouraging and welcoming anyone wishing to join the board. We are currently in need of someone to provide programs for membership meetings and also assistants. Please inform any board member if interested in joining or have any comments or suggestions for our programs.

I am looking forward to meeting you at the spring luncheon.

Tom



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Our Indiana Mayflower Society Officers and Board

Governor: Thomas Botts
editor.thehoosiermayflower@gmail.com
 Deputy Gov: Chuck Provost
chuckprovost@sbcglobal.net
 Board Secretary: Charlene Brown
indycharlene@gmail.com
 Corr. Secretary. : Diana McDowell
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 Surgeon: Dr. Val Wenzler
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 Captain: Bryant Pedigo
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 Historian: Dr. Deb Givan Alonso
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 Asst Historian: Dr. Laura Smith
indianamayflower@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Chase Slaughter
chase@glenroyconstruction.com
 Asst. Treasurer: Dick Gould
mayflowerindiana1620@gmail.com
 DGG: Dr. Laura Smith
 AG: Chuck Provost
chuckprovost@sbcglobal.net

Assistants

Class of 2023 – Term Expires 2026

Erica Gould Fundraising & Hospitality
etgould@yahoo.com
 Bruce Tisdale
btisdale1949@comcast.net

Class of 2024 - Term Expires 2027

Laura Howell
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 Roberta Caito
bcaito820@aol.com
 Pamala Smith
INmayflower1620@gmail.com

Class of 2025 - Term Expires 2028

Carolyn Niemantsverdriet
carolynnbauer@yahoo.com
 Anne Eaton, Memorial Books
anne0619@att.net
 Sue Gentry
smgentry84@gmail.com

Past Governors

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

Technology- Lili Swenson,
liliswenson@gmail.com
 Scholarship- Marsha Reynolds,
mashafoleyreynolds@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 Tom Botts at editor.thehoosiermayflower@gmail.com and he will send you an invitation. Our meetings will be at the Woodstock Club!

Join us !

Calendar

April 11, 2025 Spring Luncheon 11:30
****Sept. 20 2026 Fall Board Meeting 12:00**
Nov 21, 2026 Fall Membership Meeting 11:30
April 17, 2026 Spring Board Meeting 10:30

**** Note Change in calendar**

(All dates tentative)

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Fall Members' Luncheon Highlights

"Telling the Pilgrim Story"

With Governor General Lisa Pennington

Nov 22, 2025



Governor General Lisa Pennington and Indiana Governor Laura Smith lighting our ancestors candle

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

-William Bradford



Governor General Lisa Pennington



ISMD NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!!



Laura, Susan Bukowski, Amy Booher, Ann Casassa,
Geoffrey Bradley, Gregory Cislak, Deb



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Fall Members' Luncheon Highlights

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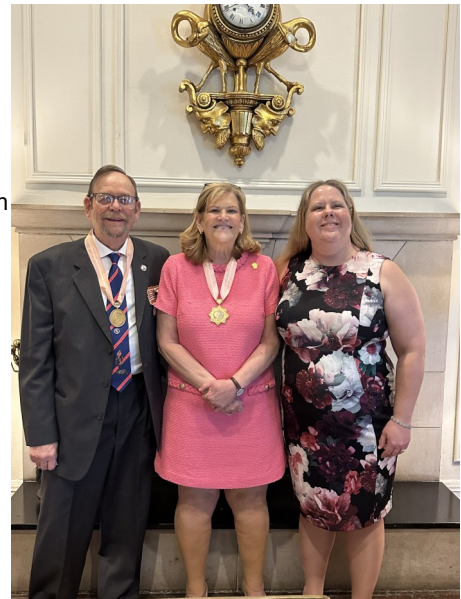
Scholarship Award

Kristiana Donahue, Awardee Monique Caraman, Gov. Laura Smith, & Dick Gould Scholarship Committee

Newly elected Board of Directors



Governor General Lisa Pennington
Past Governor Laura Smith
Governor Tom Botts



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Historian's Report Welcome New Members!!!!

In 2025 we welcomed 21 new members to our Society. Two members had approved supplemental applications.

NEW MEMBERS

Debra Gray Foster	(R Warren)	Sophia Shanelec	(W Brewster)
approved 13 Jan 2026	GS 107678 IN 1742	approved 16 Jan 2026	GS 107689 IN 1743
Sarah Youvan	(J Alden)		
approved 23 Feb 2026	GS 107804 IN 1743		

TRANSFERS

Jon Paul Jennings (John Tilley)
From Maine Jan 2026 GS 101090 IN 1744
Welcome to Indiana

SUPPLEMENTALS

Stephen Dayton (F Cooke)
Approved 1 Jan 2026 GS 103252 IN 1669

Application in Plymouth

Mark Armour, Sarah Hamlin, Terence Hickey, Susan Elzey, Kevin Conley

Supplemental: Roberta Caito

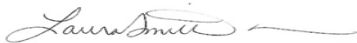
Historian: Deb Givan



Indiana Deputy Governor General Report

- Mayflower You-Tube channel [General Society of Mayflower Descendants - YouTube](#)
 - ◊ The Pilgrim in Love video was uploaded just in time for Valentine's Day and featured three videos: John Alden Priscilla Mullins, Mary Churchill and Abigail Jenney
 - ◊ The next video in the series will be on the Meetinghouse as a Fort in March and had been completed
 - ◊ The next project to be videoed will be on the Meeting house as a Courthouse when the 1638 Trial of the Arthur Peach Gang will be reenacted
 - ◊ In the summer the 2nd marriage of William Bradford to Alice (Carpenter) Southworth will be reenacted
 - ◊ Our most watched video "Things the Pilgrims Left Behind" has >105,000 views
- Future national events:
 - ◊ Heritage Fortnight breakfast is April 15th from 8:30-10:30 AM at the Army Navy Club in Washington DC. Registration is open now on the GSMD members only portion of the website. Richard Pickering from Plymouth-Patuxet will be the speaker
 - ◊ The 2026 Congress is September 11-16th in Plymouth, MA. Registration is live in the members only section of the GSMD website beginning at 10 AM on March 2nd
 - ◊ The 2027 GBOA is in Atlanta, GA
 - ◊ The 2028 GBOA is in CA (no city named)
- The DNA committee published an article in the Winter 2025 issue of the Mayflower Descendant entitled: "Was John Rickard's Wife Mary Snow the Granddaughter of Peter Brown? DNA Results Offer Additional Evidence." This article has shed light on a woman whose maiden name has been lost since the 18th century.
- Jeff Gamble is the new Research Center Manager and has been working with the Historian General Michael Denney and the Historians.
- GSMD has continued their partnership with Free Will to help members prepare wills and complete their estate planning for free. They also provide Power of Attorney and do not resuscitate documents.
- For America 250 Peggy Baker has researched and put together a tour of Revolutionary War Veterans buried in Burial Hill. She will lead Lisa in a video, create a map, and write an article for the MQM
- The Fresh Eyes committee will be sharing their evaluation of One Source (the former Virtual Vault) and make recommendations soon.
- 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 \(themayflowersociety.org\)](#)
- Mayflower Virtual Lecture series from 2021-2025 is available to view on demand on the website and are password protected [Lecture Series - General Society of Mayflower Descendants \(themayflowersociety.org\)](#)
- Progress with the Silver Books
 - ◊ Desire Howland silver book should be available later this year
 - ◊ Thomas Rogers 19: 4 is in editing

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Smith, Indiana Deputy Governor General



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Mayflower Notes

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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, post-age, 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

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 an 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!

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



Please consider the following planned giving donations for Indiana Society of Mayflower Descendants

Gifts That Pay Now

➤ **Appreciated Securities:** The gift of appreciated securities is most often in the form of a common stock or mutual funds. This kind of a gift is a valuable way to benefit the Indiana Society of Mayflower Descendants (ISMD) and for you to receive a tax benefit based on the fair-market value of your assets.

➤ **Real Estate:** Real Estate can be deeded outright to a nonprofit organization or left by bequest. The irrevocable gift of property may provide an immediate deduction and help you to avoid capital gains. Please consult a qualified financial advisor to determine if this gift will work for you.

➤ **Life Insurance:** You can make a gift of a policy or buy a policy making the Indiana Society of Mayflower Descendants the owner and beneficiary

Gifts That Pay Income

➤ **Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA):** The gift annuity is an irrevocable gift of cash or securities where you can receive a fixed income for life. At termination of the trust, the nonprofit beneficiary receives the residual value of the annuity. Due to the complexity of this type of gift, please consult a financial advisor.

➤ **Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT):** This trust allows the remainder of the assets (whatever assets remain after all other terms and conditions have been fulfilled) are transferred to a nonprofit organization.

➤ **Charitable Lead Trust:** The reverse of a CRT, this trust provides a steady income stream to a nonprofit over a set period of years. After these years, the remainder of the trust can be passed from the estate to heirs with very little or no tax.

Gifts That Pay Later

➤ **Wills and Bequests:** A gift that enables you to retain the asset during your life and passes to beneficiaries when you no longer require the asset. You can make a nonprofit such as the ISMD a beneficiary or contingent beneficiary of this asset.

➤ **Revocable "Living" Trust:** This is created by transferring title of property to a trustee under an arrangement where the trustee manages the trust property for the benefit of the trustor's purposes.

➤ **Retirement Plans:** Retirement plans can sometimes be the heaviest-taxed assets in an estate. By naming the ISMD as a beneficiary or part-beneficiary, you can avoid taxation on all or part of your retirement plan.

If you any question please email Erica Gould at etgould@yahoo.com

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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



ATTENTION MAYFLOWER STUDENTS AND FAMILY

Our scholarship recipients will be announce in our fall newsletter.

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, 2027.

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



Look for a new scarf or a tie to celebrate America's 250th anniversary and Passengers to Patriots Program..



Check out the Shop on Mayflower Society website themayflowersociety.org

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 Spring Luncheon.



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

Indiana Society of Mayflower Descendants
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Address Correction Requested

