



Vol. 5, No. 2

# Mayflower Messenger

Newsletter of the Oklahoma Society of Mayflower Descendants



October 2003

## *Governor's Greeting*

The **Mayflower Compact**, the basic agreement for governing the colony and perhaps the predecessor document for the Constitution of the United States, was signed in Cape Cod Harbor on November 11, 1620, before anyone left the ship to set foot on dry land. Our meeting in OKC on November 8, 2003, is called the Compact meeting in the bylaws of the Oklahoma Society of Mayflower Descendants in honor of the creation of that document.

It is important to attend these meetings in order to become more informed about our ancestors and to discuss their actions in the founding of this country. It is hoped that each of us will gain an awareness of the difficulties encountered and the determination required to insure a successful colonization.

We are born, married and will die on a certain day and in a certain place. These and other important facts of our lives and the lives of our ancestors are "etched in stone" and probably in an ancestral computer database forever. Furthermore, there is absolutely nothing we can do to modify or improve our ancestors. We are what we are! We can investigate, explore and record our ancestry in order to preserve the facts about our previous generations and their families. This is personal history which can be handed down for the benefit and understanding of our descendants. Those of us who find a link to the Northeast and a Mayflower passenger(s) have a minimum responsibility to inform our children of our history and personal background to insure that this important information is known and passed down to generations which follow.

Our ancestors were the first successful colony of men, women and children to start this great nation. They were Englishmen who, according to the **Mayflower Compact**, undertook the movement of their families to this land "*for the Glory of God and the Advancement of the Christian Faith.*" We must be ever mindful of these basic facts. We honor our ancestors by gathering together and reminding each other where, when, why, and by whom this great country was started. We need not and should not compromise our English heritage, language and Christian Faith. The logic which would have us ignore our heritage and the reasons we are here must be confronted with the facts and defeated!

*D. Burton Howard*  
Governor, Oklahoma Society

## *About our Speaker*

**Kathy Alvis Patterson** has been a member of the Oklahoma Society of Descendants of the Mayflower since 1994, and State Secretary for three terms. She is a fifth generation Oklahoman, and was the third generation in her family to attend the University of Oklahoma. Like her parents, she and her husband, **Mayflower Captain Malcolm H. Patterson**, met and married while studying there.

Kathy holds a BA degree from the University of South Dakota, an MA from OU and an MS in Education from Texas A&M International University. After teaching for seven years on the college level in Iowa, Kathy and Malcolm served for 17 years as missionaries in Latin America, in Colombia, and Mexico City. Kathy has now taught ten years in public schools in Texas and Oklahoma.

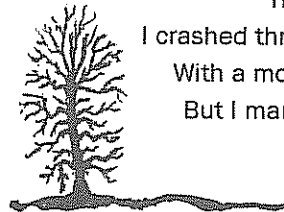
Kathy is the proud mother of three and grandmother of six. She enjoys genealogy and is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Associated Daughters of Early American Witches, as well as the Mayflower Society. She and her husband recently moved to the family farm in Hydro and are enjoying the rural life and commuting to Oklahoma City.



## *Thanksgiving*

~ Author Unknown

'Twas the night after Thanksgiving and in my sleep  
Strange dreams into my mind did creep.  
Leftovers beckoned, the dark meat and white;  
I fought the temptation with all my might.  
Tossing and turning with anticipation.  
The thought of a snack became infatuation.  
To the kitchen I did race, flung open the door,  
And gazed at the fridge full of goodies galore.  
I gobbled up turkey and buttered potatoes,  
Pickles and carrots, beans and tomatoes.  
I felt myself swelling so plump and so round,  
Till all of a sudden, I rose off the ground!  
I crashed through the ceiling, floated into the sky....  
With a mouthful of pudding and a handful of pie.  
But I managed to yell as I soared past the trees,  
HAPPY EATING TO ALL!  
PASS THE CRANBERRIES PLEASE!



PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR PAYMENT OF  
\$20 FOR THE COMPACT MEETING LUNCHEON  
BY NOVEMBER 3, 2003, TO

MILDRED GREENSTREET, TREASURER  
3220 S. ZUNIS PLACE, TULSA, OK, 74105-2236  
TELEPHONE: 918-743-7529

*Minutes*  
of the April 5, 2003, Meeting, OSDM

Governor D. Burton Howard called the meeting to order, with comments and a quotation in memory of our ancestors.

In the absence of the Elder, Dr. Malcolm Patterson led the Society in prayer and in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

Introductions were made and a welcome extended.

Deputy Governor Marquette Brown read the Mayflower Compact; members stood as their ancestors' names were read.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Kathy Patterson and approved as corrected. She passed a copy of our membership booklet, requesting that members pencil in their phone numbers and e-mail addresses, thereby giving permission to publish this information.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Mildred Greenstreet, accepted and filed for audit. She presented a letter from Merrill Park and Chester Park, who conducted an audit, affirming that the books are "well maintained and accurate."

Dr. Patterson read the Scholarship Committee report. After receiving applications from three individuals, the committee decided that Miss Susan Lysaght will receive this year's award. The scholarship program will continue without changes for the next year.

Lois Copley read the Historian's Report. Four new members have been approved, and ten papers have been submitted. Fifteen new applications are also presented. It was voted to accept these applicants, pending approval from the General Society in Plymouth. Mrs. Copley made a plea for a new Historian, who might work with her for a time and thus be prepared to take over some day.

Mr. Howard commended Jeannine Long, in her absence, for her continued excellent work with the newsletter. He suggested that we add general Society members resident in Oklahoma to our mailing list.

The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary Kathy Patterson

*Berry Bread*

*American Indians crushed strawberries in a mortar and mixed them with meal to make a strawberry bread. After trying this bread, the colonists developed a version ~ and strawberry shortcake was born!*

From *The Arkansas Pilgrim*, October 2002, newsletter of the Arkansas Mayflower Society



2003 Oklahoma  
Mayflower  
Scholarship Recipient

~  
Susan Lysaght,  
BSN, RN, CCRN



Susan Lysaght is pursuing a dual degree Master's program involving geriatric nursing and pastoral ministry at Boston College. She is descended from William Bradford of the Mayflower. Members of the OSDM include her grandmother, Dorothy Bodgett Conn; her mother, Mary Ann Conn Lysaght; and her aunt, Barbara Conn Lipe. – Congratulations, Susan!

Previous recipients of the scholarship:

2000 ~ Jaylynn R. Warren. At the time of the award she was pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Duke University.

2001 ~ Chad E. Joy. After receiving this scholarship he completed the Master of Science in Administration degree, Southern Nazarene University; currently attending the FBI Academy in Quantico, VA.

2002 ~ Michael Fielder. At time of the award he was studying for a Master of Business Administration degree at Georgia State University.

*We are proud of these young people and interested in their accomplishments. We ask that family members keep us informed.*

Passages from

*"Of Plymouth Plantation 1620 – 1647"*  
By William Bradford Edited By Samuel Eliot Morison

(William Bradford describing the circumstances upon landing at Cape Cod Harbor) "...they had now no friends to welcome them nor inns to entertain or refresh their weather beaten bodies; no houses or much less towns to repair to, to seek succor."

"What could they see but a hideous and desolate wilderness, full of wild beasts and wild men – and what multitudes there might be of them they knew not."

"What could now sustain them but the Spirit of God and His grace? May ... the children of these fathers rightly say: "Our fathers were Englishmen which came over this great ocean, and were ready to perish in this wilderness; but they cried unto the Lord, and He heard their voice and looked on their adversity."

"Let them (the children, the descendants) therefore praise the Lord, because He is good: and His mercies endure forever."

Provided by Governor D. Burton Howard

## *In Memoriam*

**Edward A. Alvis, Governor, 2000-2002**

24 Dec 1926-8 February 2003

"Art" Alvis passed away in February after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. A graduate of the University of Oklahoma, he and his wife Evelynne had lived in various places during their 57 years of marriage as he pursued his retail career -- from Wichita Falls, TX, to New York, to Kansas City, returning to Western Oklahoma -- Hydro -- in 1977.

A descendant of Richard Warren, his hobby was genealogy for over 30 years. He had just completed a term as Governor of the Oklahoma Society of Mayflower Descendants. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Sons of Union Veterans, The '89ers Club, the First Families of the Twin Territories, and the Western Plains Genealogical Society. He belonged to the Scottish Rite of the Masonic Lodge, having served as Worshipful Master.

A lifelong, active Republican, he met Presidents Eisenhower, Nixon, Ford, Regan and Bush, Sr. He and his wife were listed in *Who's Who in Missouri Politics*.

He is survived by his wife, Evelynne; daughters and sons-in-law, Kathy and Malcolm Patterson, and Sue and William Snyder; five grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and one brother.

**Bonnie W. Burns**

15 February 1908 - 23 March 2003

**Dorothy G. Sudikas**

18 September 1920 - 8 May 2003

**Cora J. Terrill**

30 October 1907 - 26 January 2003

## *History Forgotten*

Patrick Henry, who is called the firebrand of the American Revolution, is still remembered for his words, "*Give me liberty or give me death*," but in current textbooks, the context of these words is omitted. Here is what he actually said:

*"An appeal to arms and the God of hosts is all that is left us. But we shall not fight our battle alone. There is a just God that presides over the destinies of nations. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone. Is life so dear or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God. I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death."*

(Excerpted from e-mail article, "History Forgotten")

## *Especially for Juniors*

Dr. Patricia Moseley Stanford, guest speaker at our Fall Compact Meeting and Luncheon in 2001, has a wonderful Web site especially for Juniors. <http://www.quiknet.com/~moseley/index.html> "Dr. Pat" is Junior Membership Chair of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, and Past Governor of the Mayflower Descendants in the State of California.

If you have Internet access, you ought to check out this Web site. There are on-line coloring books, an on-line cutout book, stories about the Mayflower and a history book -- all on a child's level.



*You can print coloring pages, such as the one shown here of John and Priscilla Alden, for instant entertainment for your child or grandchild.*

*What fun!*

## **Voyage of the Mayflower ~ a Board Game**

Available from A Common Reader

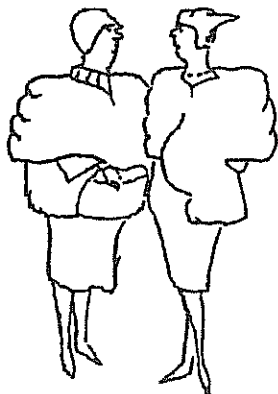
<http://www.commonreader.com>

1-800-832-7323, Item #010370, boxed set is \$25

From Chatham Hill Games, the makers of *Catchpenny*, comes this entertaining and educational board game, produced in cooperation with *Plimouth Plantation*. Players must overcome pirates, bad weather, and scurvy -- not to mention the danger of sinking -- while charting the quickest course across the ocean (and keeping a watchful eye on their dwindling provisions). But on a fine day there are whales in sight and fair winds behind, as the *Mayflower*, *Fortune*, *Little James*, and *Anne* make their way across the Atlantic to Massachusetts. Accompanied by a passenger list and other historical information, this is a fine family game that is also suitable for classroom use. Ages ten to adult, for one to four players or teams.

Founded in 1986 by The Akadine Press, A Common Reader is a monthly book *catalog* mailed to tens of thousands of readers across the United States and around the world.

From the Oregon Pilgrim,  
newsletter of the Oregon  
Society, Fall 2001



*"But, my dear, I have  
three Mayflower  
ancestors!"*

"... our ancestors established their system of government on morality and religious sentiment. Moral habits, they believed, cannot safely be trusted on any other foundation than religious principle, nor any government be secure which is not supported by moral habits. Whatever makes men good Christians, makes them good citizens . . . let us not forget the religious character of our origin."

**Daniel Webster** at the  
December 22, 1820, celebration of the 200-year anniversary of the Pilgrims' landing at "the Rock."

## The Stars and Stripes Forever



The first flags adopted by our colonial forefathers were symbolic of their struggles with the wilderness of a new land. Beavers, pine trees, rattlesnakes, anchors, and various like insignias with mottos such as "Hope," "Liberty," "Appeals to Heaven," or "Don't Tread on Me," were affixed to the different banners of Colonial America. Congress authorized the Stars and Stripes on June 14, 1777. An improvised flag was first displayed in the face of the enemy at Fort Schuyler, New York, on August 3, 1777. The white part came from a soldier's shirt, a captain's cloak supplied the blue of the union, and the red stripes came from the petticoat of a soldier's wife. The flag of the United States is the third oldest of all national standards in the world today – older than the Union Jack of Great Britain or the Tri-Color of France.

*This article from the April 2003 issue of Hoosier Mayflower (Indiana), first appeared in Tar Heel Pilgrim, newsletter of the North Carolina Society, May 2002.*



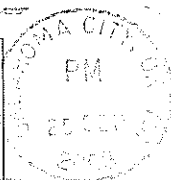
### Mayflower Messenger

Oklahoma Society of Mayflower Descendants

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## Fall Compact Meeting

Waterford Marriott ~ Board Room

6300 Waterford Boulevard, Oklahoma City

(North of Penn Square Mall on Pennsylvania Avenue)

Saturday, November 8

9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Board of Assistants Meeting

11 a.m. General Business Meeting

12 Noon to 2 p.m. ~ Luncheon

Kathy Patterson

will speak on King Philip's War

