

UTAH MAYFLOWER COMPACT



SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN THE STATE OF UTAH, VOL 53, NO 1, SPRING 2020

Governor's Address – April 2020

On behalf of myself and your Mayflower Board, we wish you physical and emotional health during this unique and trying time. May this be as much a time of reflection and pause as our world rests from the normality of distraction and busyness, as a time of preparation and protection. For any who are suffering in any way, our prayers and thoughts are with you.

Given the circumstances, and with some sadness and regret, we hereby give notice that the Spring Gathering Banquet is cancelled. We hope and anticipate gathering in November 2020 in the Joseph Smith Memorial Building.

There remain some items of virtual celebration and commemoration for the General Mayflower Society 400-year national commemorative celebration. On a limited basis, our Utah Society continues to partner with The New England Historic Genealogical Society, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, and

**ALL GREAT AND
HONORABLE ACTIONS
ARE ACCOMPANIED
WITH GREAT
DIFFICULTIES, AND
BOTH MUST BE
ENTERPRISED AND
OVERCOME WITH
ANSWERABLE COURAGE.**

- *William Bradford*

FamilySearch. I would encourage all of us to access each of these entities and look for virtual events and opportunities to engage with them to experience and contribute to the celebration.

Additionally, we have a unique time to record not only the events of our lives during this pandemic, but our experiences and reflections during this celebratory year as it relates to us as individuals, patriarchs, matriarchs, and members of our families. There is much to share - and an unprecedented measure of time and technology to record in detail our thoughts, impressions, and experiences for our posterity.

May our Heavenly Father bless us individually for our needs and desires. May we seek Him and feel after Him.

Your Governor,
J. Mark Smedley



Bradford Family Bible



**UTAH MAYFLOWER SOCIETY
CELEBRATING THE MAYFLOWER
VOYAGE'S HISTORIC 400-YEAR
ANNIVERSARY 1620-2020**

February 26-29, 2020 - Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah

What better way to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower crossing than to attend RootsTech 2020: “The Story of You.” We attended four full days February 26-29, 2020 alongside thousands of other attendees, each expressing their passion for family heritage. We handed out - and had turned in - well over 500 free lineage reviews that will help our Mayflower cousins evaluate their lineage in preparation for application to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD). We also took this opportunity to share with others details regarding upcoming national and local commemorative activities. The word is definitely out about the 2020 celebrations back in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Many of our GSMD cousins came from out of state to help with the booth, including GSMD Governor General George P. Garmany, Jr., MD who spent three days with us meeting and talking with everyone he could. From DNA testing to proving one’s Mayflower lineage, to learning about archives and research - Roots Tech had so much to offer. Thank you for a very successful event, cousins!

During the conference Friday morning, many of us were able to participate in the Pilgrim Processional which began on the convention center’s Main Stage. Governor Garmany, visiting dignitaries, and Utah Society members had the attention of thousands while efforts to commemorate the Mayflower voyage’s historic 400-year anniversary were described. The processional continued to the Expo Hall where it concluded with a photo shoot in front of a large Mayflower replica and copy of the Mayflower Compact, which served as the center pieces for the entire Expo Hall. William Bradford’s family Bible that accompanied him on the Mayflower also made an appearance.

Later in the afternoon, several of us went up to the Utah State Capitol for the presentation of House Concurrent Resolution 18 (H.C.R. 18) commemorating the historic voyage of the Mayflower and signing of the Mayflower Compact. We stood and witnessed the reading and unanimous votes in both House and Senate – and look forward to Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert’s signing later this year. Special thanks go out to Tanya Bird, Utah Mayflower Society’s Communications Chair, for initiating this memorable and impressive recognition.

It was exciting to visit with many future Mayflower cousins and see their excitement to prove their heritage back 400 years. We were able to answer many questions and explain the benefits of being a part of such a society. In the four days of sharing about the GSMD, we talked about connecting with “family” and the importance of knowing our ancestry in an effort to pass on the legacy to our children and grandchildren. It is wonderful to get to know Mayflower cousins, learn more about the Mayflower Pilgrims, and play a role in helping to get people excited about the Mayflower voyage’s historic 400-year anniversary events.

We encouraged many to visit Plymouth, Massachusetts and the Mayflower Society House. The Mayflower House and the gorgeous garden, memorial blocks, and library have just undergone a facelift in preparation for upcoming celebrations. The General Society of Mayflower Descendants offers so much to people who are looking to belong. In short, we were able to create more memories with our cousins – and promote our great Mayflower legacy.

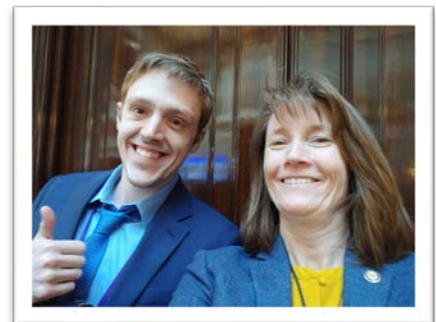
We all look forward to volunteering at Roots Tech in 2021 in preparation for the 2021 celebration, the 400th anniversary of Thanksgiving. This could be a tradition for every year - make sure that you’re a part of it!

Thomas Portlock- Utah Deputy Governor General

Final RootsTech Stats

- Total Registrations – 16,392
- Live Streams – 73,178
- Family Discovery Day Registrations – 25,811
- Youth Night - 20,000-23,000
- Young Adult Party – 8,000





LEGISLATIVE GENERAL
COUNSEL

Approved for Filing: T.R. Vaughn
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**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 400TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISTORIC VOYAGE OF THE
MAYFLOWER AND THE SIGNING OF THE MAYFLOWER
COMPACT**

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Marie H. Poulson

Senate Sponsor: Jerry W. Stevenson

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This concurrent resolution commemorates the 400th anniversary of the historic voyage of the Mayflower and the signing of the Mayflower Compact.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ recognizes the historic significance of the passengers and crew who undertook a journey inspired by a desire for religious freedom;
- ▶ recognizes the 400th anniversary of the founding of Plymouth Colony;
- ▶ recognizes the 400th anniversary of the signing of the Mayflower Compact; and
- ▶ recognizes the Mayflower Compact as the beginning of democracy in the United States.

Special Clauses:

None

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:

WHEREAS, in 1608, a group of men, women, and children fled from an English village in pursuit of a fresh start in the Netherlands;

HCR018

H.C.R. 18

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28 WHEREAS, the group was known as religious Separatists from the Church of England;

29 WHEREAS, the group of religious Separatists would eventually be known as Pilgrims;

30 WHEREAS, in 1620, the Pilgrims set sail for the New World on September 6, on the

31 Mayflower;

32 WHEREAS, after more than two months at sea, the Mayflower anchored at what is

33 known today as Provincetown, Massachusetts;

34 WHEREAS, 41 men drafted and signed the Mayflower Compact;

35 WHEREAS, the Mayflower Compact formed Plymouth Colony, which was composed

36 of a "civil body politic" that would be governed with just and equal laws;

37 WHEREAS, the Mayflower Compact is viewed as the genesis of democracy in the

38 United States; and

39 WHEREAS, November 11, 2020, will be the 400th anniversary of the signing of the

40 Mayflower Compact:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Legislature, the Governor concurring

42 therein, recognizes and expresses gratitude for the courage of the Pilgrim Separatists to seek

43 freedom at a great cost to establish a colony in United States.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor recognize

45 principles of the Mayflower Compact as the initial attempt in what is now the United States at

46 self-governance under democratic laws.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor commemorate

48 2020 as the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower and the signing of the

49 Mayflower Compact.