



# THE UTAH COMPACT

UTAH SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS VOL 58, NO. 4, Winter 2025

## Governors Message:

This time of year, I can't help but think of our ancestors who arrived at Plymouth, fighting desperately to survive their first winter in the new world. Their grit and perseverance were nothing short of remarkable.

I'm reminded of the beautiful quote by Viktor Frankl: "He who has a why to live for can bear almost any how." I candidly wonder how my own family would have fared through those long, frigid months.

That story feels so distant, yet its truth is more relevant today than ever. What are the guiding principles of our modern lives? How can we rise above hardship and distraction to live lives filled with real meaning rather than mere entertainment? The very things that carried them through—community and faith—are needed now more than ever.

This Christmas season, I pray we all hold those who matter most a little closer and find simple, heartfelt ways to truly connect.

Merry Christmas,

Governor Ted Arnoldus

## Utah Society Held its Fall Banquet on November 7th, 2025

The Utah Society met for its Fall 2025 Banquet on Friday, November 7th, 2025, at the Sons of Utah Pioneers National Headquarters. It was a beautiful evening on the benches of the Salt Lake valley. After conducting Society business and presenting new members with their certificates, the program was enjoyed by over 78 society members. The banquet was catered by Brown Catering and it was delicious.

Some highlights of society business were voting and sustaining a new Utah Mayflower board for 2026-2029

starting in January. We want to welcome our new board as well as our New Governor Ted Arnoldus.



*Signing in of New Utah Mayflower Board*

## Quick Bios of the New Board Members:

Governor elect: Ted Arnoldus



My Mayflower Ancestors are: Degory Priest, Edward Fuller, and Samuel Fuller.

I am excited to grow the Mayflower Society here in Utah! We need to drive engagement any way that we can and bring in the next generation of cousins. The Mayflower story means more now than ever before!

I am a business owner and community leader and believe deeply in the promise of the American experience. I have time to devote to our Society, and I cannot wait to get started.

**Deputy Governor: Kelly Van Noy**



My Mayflower ancestors are: Francis Cooke, Peter Brown, and John Billington.

I enjoy being part of the Utah Society of Mayflower Descendants and would like to be of service to its members.

I have spent decades as president, chairman, and/or member on numerous boards, foundations and councils. These include the Egyptian Theatre Foundation, Utah State Board of Aging and Adult Services, Davis County Council on Aging, and Weber County Organization for Elderly, to name a few. Also earning a Master of Business Degree from USU and working 33 years for Weber Human Services in various management capacities until retirement provided useful management skills and knowledge.

**Secretary: Lori Liljenquist**

My Mayflower ancestor is Richard Warren.

I thought serving as Secretary was a good opportunity to meet more people within the organization and a way to help others.

I have served as secretary for other member organizations and charities (501Cs). Working as a realtor has helped me hone my people skills and deal with contracts.

**Treasurer: Hyrum Portlock:**



My Mayflower ancestors are: Governor William Bradford, Richard Warren, John Billington, James Chilton, Stephen Hopkins, Edward Doty, Francis Cooke and Degory Priest.

I would like to serve as an officer on the Utah Mayflower Board of Assistants because it would be an honor and a meaningful opportunity to contribute to the preservation of our shared heritage. By serving in this role, I hope to help strengthen community engagement, support educational initiatives, and ensure that our traditions continue to inspire future generations.

I am an active, licensed CPA (Certified Public Accountant) in the State of Utah, with both a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and a Master of Accountancy from Utah Valley University. I bring a strong academic foundation, a deep understanding of financial principles, and a commitment to accuracy and integrity. As treasurer, I will ensure our financial records are meticulously maintained, transparent, and aligned with best practices. Beyond bookkeeping, I aim to provide meaningful financial insights that support the Board's decision-making and help the Society thrive.



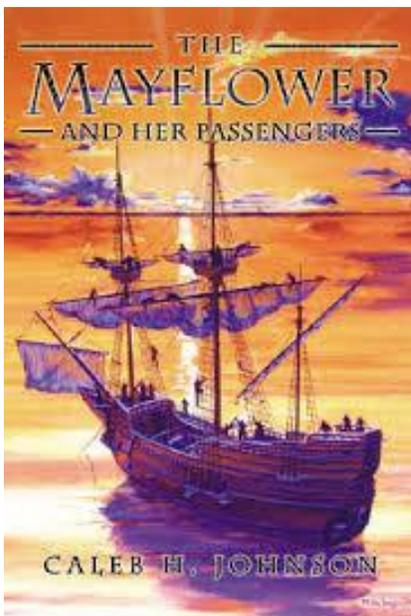
**Historian: Coleen Benson**



My Mayflower ancestor is Peter Browne. I feel I have the skills to help the Utah Mayflower society continue to grow and I'm willing to spend the time I need in order to get the job done. I enjoy researching and have the skills to help people know how to prove their lineage

**Elder: Jay Ashworth**

My ancestor is William Mullins. I was asked by the Board of Assistants to serve in the capacity of Elder and look forward to working with the Board. My church-related skills and experiences include Bishop's Counselor, Elder's Quorum President, Stake High Councilor and Ward Mission Leader. I also have skills in idea/concept generation and brainstorming. I am deeply dedicated to seeing the Society in Utah thrive and enjoy the interaction with others at Mayflower meetings and RootsTech at the Society's booth.



**Captain: David Wilkinson**



Mayflower Ancestors: William White, Miles Standish I feel an additional connection and commitment to the Utah Mayflower Society when I am serving as an officer. I enjoy and appreciate the opportunity to serve in this way. I was the public relations co-chair about 10-15 years ago. I've also been serving as Captain for the past two years. I've had several compliments on my speaking voice and my presentation of the Pledge of Allegiance and the Mayflower Compact.

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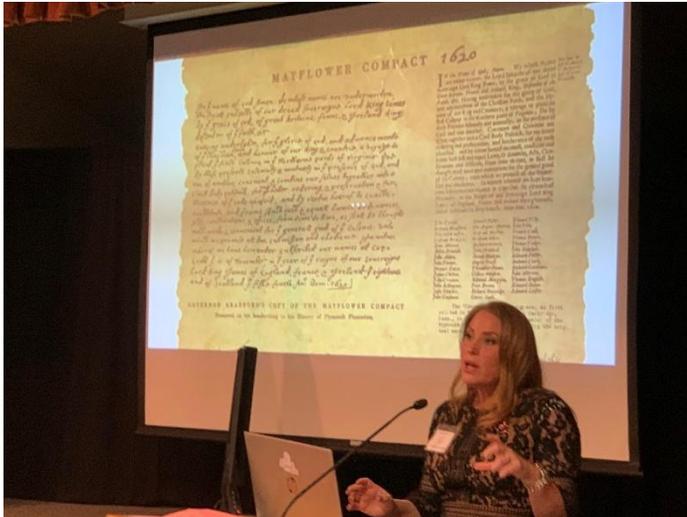
The banquet continued with DGG Thomas Portlock sharing a report of the General Board of Assistants Meeting held on September 4-7, 2025, in San Antonio. All society members were invited and the next GBOA meeting will be held in Plymouth for the Congress 2026 – September 11–15, 2026.

For the program we enjoyed a musical number arranged by Dan Newbold, descendant of Thomas Rogers. Verdi White sang a “Patriotic medley,” accompanied by himself.

Following the music, our Secretary, Lori Liljenquist, a descendant of Richard Warren, introduced our guest speaker. Judge Kelly Schaeffer-Bullock.

Judge Schaeffer-Bullock was appointed to the Highland/Alpine City Justice Court in January 2017. She earned her Bachelor of Arts from Brigham Young University–Hawaii in 2001 and her Juris Doctor from BYU's J. Reuben Clark Law School in 2008. Before her appointment, Judge Schaeffer-Bullock served primarily as a municipal prosecutor and also gained civil experience with the firm Bugden & Isaacson, LLC. She continues to serve as a lecturer and researcher at BYU's Law School. Judge Schaeffer-Bullock is an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, where she furthers

the mission of honoring and preserving our shared heritage.



2025 Fall banquet with Judge Bullock

Judge Kelly Schaeffer-Bullock shared a wonderful presentation on how the threads of The Mayflower Compact are woven throughout history. With reference to the Constitution, and even the preamble to the Utah Constitution. We all need to remember the freedom that they were fighting for.



Robert Ernest Anderson Descendant of William Bradford and Brewster as supplemental



Jennifer Caroline Moulder descndnat of Thomas Rogers

## 2024 New Utah Society Members

### New Members:

Laura Ellen Raile- Howland  
Ronald Scott McArthur- Howlan  
Genevieve Demille Kiesel- Brewster  
Robert Ernest Anderson- William Brewster  
Martha Kerr- William Bradford  
Karen Lee Anderson- John Tilley  
Tamara Welch Meldrum- Chilton  
Natalie Lyn Redd- Alden  
Hyrum Portlock- William Bradford

### Supplementals:

Jennifer Caroline Moulder- Rogers  
Martha Kerr- Brewster  
Robert Ernest Anderson- William Bradford  
Robert Waterman Scott- John Billington  
Sidney Alayne Price- John Tilley



Martha Kerr Descendant of Bradford and Brewster for Supplemental



*Keren Lee Anderson Descendant of John Tilley*



*Hyrum Portlock Descendant of William Bradford*

This past year, the Utah Society celebrated our “Pilgrims to Pioneers” initiative. This included our past pilgrim ancestors’ descendants who crossed the plains as pioneers before the Transcontinental Railroad was completed. Lapel pins, medallions, challenge coins, and mugs with a newly created design were available for purchase. A new Utah society certificate was announced and is now available for sale on the website. It will go well with the “Pilgrims to Pioneers” medallion. The certificate includes your Passenger and Pioneer, GSMD # as well as your state membership ID#. A beautiful legacy to pass down and to honor your heritage.

**Pilgrims to Pioneers Recipients-**

**Larry Mark Ashurst-** Joseph Leland Heywood to John Alden

**Darle Ann Taylor-** William Henry Staker to William Brewster

**Karla Porter-** Newman Greenleaf Glodgett to William Bradford

**Pamela Smith-** James Sawyer Holman to Degory Priest

**Suzanne Taylor-** Louisa Drusilla Bunker to William White

**Kelly Van Noy-** Jerimiah Leavitt III to Francis Cooke

**Royce H Veater-** Simeon Fuller Howd to Edward Fuller

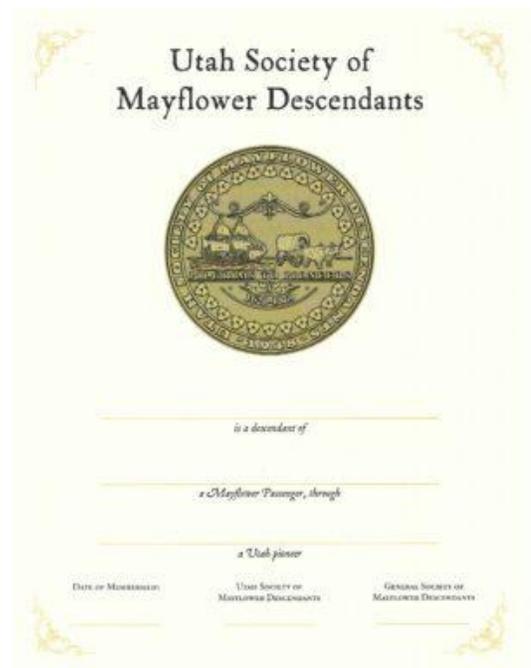
**Stephanie Weaver-** Samantha Jane Buckland to John Alden

**David Wilkinson-** Savannah Wester Clark Punam to William White

**Martha Kerr-** Orin Hatch to William Bradford



*Utah Mayflower Pilgrims to Pioneers*





2025 Fall Baquet with Judge Kelly Schaeffer-Bullock

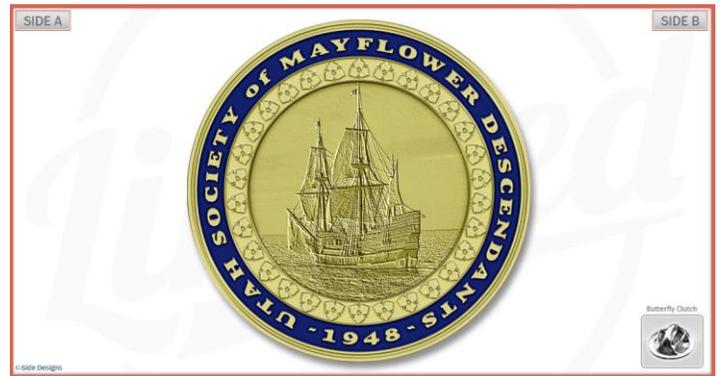
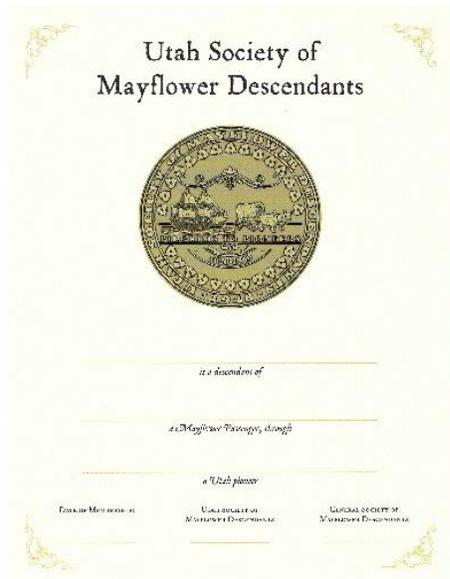
## Roots Tech 2026

To sign up for 2026 contact the Utah Mayflower Society DGG Thomas Portlock at 801-949-6724.

## Pilgrims to Pioneers Merchandise

**Remember** to get your Pilgrim to Pioneer merchandise. Click on the links under each item to take you to the Utah Society website.

Notice our new offering for the “Utah Pilgrims to Pioneers Certificate” \$10.00 with verification.



**Utah Mayflower Descendant Lapel Pin \$7.00** 1" size, 3mm thick, Soft Enamel, Standard Flat Cut edge Utah Society of Mayflower Descendants Lapel Raised High Polish Bronze, Bronze Sandblast Recess. To order, click [here](#).



**Pilgrims to Pioneers Hot Beverage Mug \$8.00** - In pink with blue print or almond with gold print. To order, click [here](#).



**Commemorative Medallion \$20.00** - Utah Society of Mayflower Descendants 2024 Medallion 4" size 3mm thick, Standard Flat Cut edge Pilgrim to Pioneer Medallion. Raised Antique Bronze, Antique Bronze Brushed Recess. To order, click [here](#).



**From Pilgrims to Pioneers Coin \$12.00** - Utah Society of Mayflower Descendants 2024 Coin 1.75" size 3mm thick, Standard Flat Cut edge Pilgrim to Pioneer Coin Raised High Polish Bronze, Bronze Sandblast Recess. To order, click [here](#).

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## 2026 General Board of Assistants Meeting

Next GBOA meeting will be held in Plymouth for the Congress 2026 – September 11–15, 2026. They are working to keep the cost for the event low. If you are interested in going, please check the GSMD website for more information. All are welcome to attend the event. There will be tours and opportunities to mingle with fellow General Society members. Registration opens in the Spring.

## Membership and Dues

Year-to-date membership is at 258 members.

The dues button was taken off the website. An invoice will be sent out for dues. Please contact Treasurer Eileen Johnson at [treasurer@utahmayflower.org](mailto:treasurer@utahmayflower.org) for payments on dues.

From our Treasurer:

Cousins: Please pay your annual dues only when you receive an invoice or after checking with me. Several members have paid dues unnecessarily and are at least two years ahead of schedule. I can refund the overpayment to your credit card within 180 days; I just need the expiration date of the card used. I have emailed the member when the duplicate payments are made but I do not always receive a response. I would appreciate your cooperation with this request.

## Remember Scholarships

While our Society focuses on lineage, we are also a non-profit organization and should give back to the community. We now have a payment button on the website where you can contribute towards scholarships for students related to our members. We urge you to contribute to the scholarship fund. Once it has been adequately funded, we will announce the qualifications for deserving students. Please consider a donation, we need your support. We thank those members who have contributed to the scholarship fund. Just a reminder that this is tax deductible and a very worthy cause. Please contribute at [utahmayflower.org](http://utahmayflower.org) on the payments page. The total contributed so far is \$1,525.06.



## Board Member and Committee Chairs Needed

Interested in serving the Utah State Society as a Board Member or Committee Chair? We'd love to have you join us! We are looking to fill the following Board positions and Committee Chair positions:

- Assistant General
- Outreach Chair
- Membership
- Counselor

**If interested, please contact a Board member and or the Nominating Committee**

## Save the date for our Spring Banquet on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026