

# THE KENTUCKY PILGRIM

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Fall 2018 Issue

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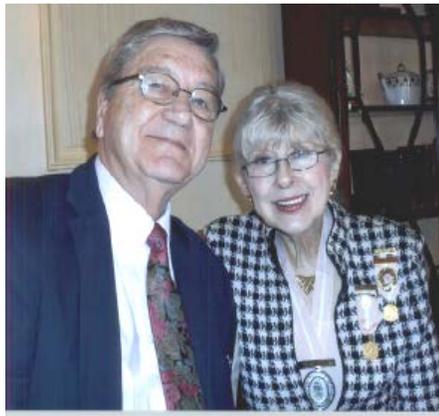
## Mayflower Governor's Message Ben J. Talbott, Jr.



As I have on previous occasion, I wish to begin this message with a special thanks to all those members and officers who have been so helpful during the past several months. These especially include our Secretary, Carol

Vaughan, our Historian, Anissa Davis, and many other of our Board members who give so freely of their time to help with the operations of our society.

However, there are two couples that I simply can't thank enough. One of them is Fay Charpentier-Ford and her husband, Jerry Ford. Fay is our Treasurer which is a big job itself, which Fay does meticulously, with help of course from Jerry, but that is only a small part of all they do. Fay and Jerry also help plan our meetings, prepare our Directory, supply our table decorations, and do almost anything else that I might request. They are terrific to work with.



*Jerry and Fay Charpentier-Ford*

The other such couple are Martina and Foster Ockerman. Martina is our Elder. In addition, she is also the Co-Chair with Ann Derrick of our Fundraising Committee for the restoration of GSMD's Church and Meetinghouse. She has done a great job in both roles. Her husband, Foster, has also been a help to both the GSMD and the KSMD.

For example, both Martina and Foster regularly attend and participate in the GSMD Congress. This year Foster was a part of the GSMD Color Guard. Also, this year at our upcoming Fall meeting Foster Ockerman will be our speaker.



*Martina and Foster Ockerman*

Furthermore, I also wish to thank my daughters, Libby Berryman and Sandra Butler, both of whom serve on our Meetinghouse Fundraising Committee. Libby especially has worked extremely hard on raising money, and she has also been a big help in locating some of our missing members who have moved without giving notification to KSMD. This has been extremely important in preparing our new directory.

Finally, I wish to thank all of the members who have contributed and/or pledged donations to the GSMD Meetinghouse restoration. Already we have raised or had pledged contributions of over \$11,000, and a few members have given as much as \$1,000 or even \$2,000 to this project. Altogether we have received donations from fifty of our members. I encourage all members to give something, even a small amount if you can possibly afford it. We still have approximately 150 members who have not contributed or pledged any amount. If those members would either give \$25 per year for the next two years or acquire such gifts from others, we would raise at least another \$7,500 for this very worthy cause. Most probably, GSMD will not have a similar such cause for another 100 years, i.e., until the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mayflower voyage. Consequently, for each and every one of us, this will likely be our last opportunity to contribute to such a vital and important Mayflower project which can be cherished by our descendants for

years and years to come. Moreover, all these gifts to GSMD are tax deductible.

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**KSMD's Fall Meeting  
November 10, 2018**

The Fall Meeting for KSMD will be held at the Pendennis Club in Louisville on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018 beginning at 11:45 am. As usual, it will be held in the Reading Room of the Pendennis Club, which can accommodate about sixty people for lunch.

Because the capacity of the Reading Room of the Pendennis Club is limited, it invariably fills up early. Therefore, it is important for you to get your checks in early if you wish to ensure your reservation.

As is usual with the Fall Meeting, because of its relative proximity to Thanksgiving Day, the meal will closely follow what is generally thought of as Thanksgiving food, e.g., turkey and dressing, etc. In any event, it will be delicious.

Our speaker this year will be our own Foster Ockerman, a lawyer and historian, who will speak to us on the topic of the Mayflower armor in a speech entitled *Protecting The Pilgrims*.

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**Information Reminder**

In recent years, many of our members have changed addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, etc. without providing KSMD or GSMD any of their replacement information. As a consequence, it becomes very difficult, if not impossible, for KSMD or GSMD to stay in touch about our meetings, dues notices, newsletters or Directory changes, etc. In some cases, this even results in a member's unexpectant loss of membership for failure to pay their annual dues. Therefore, KSMD strongly urges that any time a member changes address, telephone number, email address or other such contact information, he or she notify Carol Vaughan, our Secretary, of such a change. Article XIII of KSMD's Constitution even provides that: "*It shall be the duty of every member to inform the Secretary by written communication of his place of residence and of any change hereof.*"

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**2018 GSMD Congress**

This year's GSMD Congress was held at the Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Illinois from Sept

5 to Sept. 9, 2018. This year's attendance included 155 members and officers from thirty-eight different states, plus two officers from the Canadian society and one each from the District of Columbia society and the European society. Kentucky had four attendees, namely, Governor Ben Talbott and his wife, Sandy, and Elder Martina Ockerman and her husband, Foster.

Much of the period beginning Sept. 5 allowed time for socializing, touring the area and historic sites, or taking a cruise or trip to Chicago. The bulk of the formal business was conducted in an all-day meeting on Saturday, September 8, and was followed that evening with a formal banquet and entertainment.

The meeting opened with the parade of the Color Guard and the presentation of the American Flag. One of the members of that Guard was Kentucky's own Foster Ockerman, Martina Ockerman's husband.

Subsequently, Governor General George Garmany called for a vote of approval of the AGs and the DGGs and Governor Talbott and Elder Martina Ockerman were both approved as the representatives of KSMD. In this instance, Martina was approved as the Acting DGG in place of Fay Charpentier-Ford who was unable to attend the meeting.



*Foster Ockerman  
2018 GSMD Congress*

Governor General Garmany, and later the other officers and Board members of GSMD gave their separate reports and/or proposed motions for adoption, including Bylaw changes. Some of the things discussed included the following:

Governor General Garmany discussed the fact that the creation of the William Bradford statue had now been verbally agreed upon and would be contracted for a cost of \$100,000. It will show Bradford seated next to a small desk or table and will be made of bronze. Small duplicate copies will also be made for sale to GSMD members.

Later Governor General Garmany also introduced U.S. Congressman Bill Foster to speak about the progress made in having the U.S. Government issue a coin honoring the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mayflower landing for sale to interested buyers. It has been proposed that GSMD would receive thirty percent of the profit from these sales which could amount to \$2.3 million for GSMD. GSMD could begin receiving a portion of the profit from these sales in 2021.

GSMD's financial statements showed the society with total assets of \$11,325,699 as compared to last year's total assets of \$10,757,001. The restricted cash on hand as of June 30, 2018 collected for the restoration of the First Parish Meetinghouse is shown to be \$86,833, and with further amounts raised by the member state societies they are believed to exceed \$183,000. In addition, the GSMD is hoping to raise additional funds from interested foundations and organizations, especially including from the Community Preservation Fund of Plymouth from which it is seeking a \$2.0 million to \$2.6 million grant.

It was noted that GSMD must continue to find ways to grow its revenues because expenses are always increasing. For example, in the last few years, GSMD has tripled its scholarship awards. Originally, GSMD awarded only a single scholarship in the amount of \$5,000. Now it offers four scholarships of different amounts annually at a total cost of \$15,000 per year. As a consequence, GSMD is considering the possibility of a small dues increase, including other revenue enhancing possibilities such as additional sales of Mayflower medals and other paraphernalia.

The next Congress of GSMD will be held in September 2019 in Denver Colorado at the Grand Hyatt Hotel with a closing banquet dinner at the Port Hotel. GSMD's 2020 Congress will be hosted by Provincetown, MA and the Provincetown Pilgrim Monument and Museum Association beginning Friday, September 7, 2020.

The 2020 Congress and celebrations will be held over a ten-day period in September 2020, primarily in Provincetown, Massachusetts. Many special events are planned in connection with the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mayflower voyage. For example, in the Rose Bowl Parade that year held in Pasadena California, the Mayflower Society will enter a float and GSMD members can apply to assist in the preparation of the float decorations, etc. Because the Rose Bowl Parade is nationally televised, we will all have the opportunity to watch it on TV and hear what

the announcers say about the float and about the Mayflower voyage itself.

By 2020 it is also expected that Mayflower II will be rebuilt and docked at Provincetown, MA for the re-enactment of the signing of the Mayflower Compact, and from Provincetown it will sail to Plymouth for further activities and celebrations there. In addition, the Pilgrim Monument in Provincetown will be lighted on November 11, 2020. It is also expected that many other celebrations regarding the Mayflower voyage will be held or recognized across the country. Additionally, the New York Mayflower Society intends to hold a Mayflower Debutante Ball on Friday, November 6, 2020 that's expected to be a spectacular affair. Finally, it was proposed and approved that the Massachusetts Mayflower Society host the 2021 GSMD Congress, and that the Minnesota Mayflower Society would host the 2022 GSMD Congress.

Near the end of the formal meeting and preceding the banquet dinner, Governor General Garmany awarded the GSMD's special certificates of honor and award pins to a few of GSMD's most deserving members, one of whom was our own Martina Ockerman. Like the award to Fay Charpentier-Ford last year, it places Martina on a special placard displayed during Congress at the front of the main meeting room. All past winners, including Fay, were listed this year, and Martina will now join them on that illustrious list for next year and the years thereafter.



*Martina Ockerman receiving GSMD Award*

### **The DNA Project**

GSMD's DNA Project was given special importance at the GSMD Congress held in St. Charles, Illinois. To explain the details of the project, including its scientific procedures, present results, and recently improved methods for obtaining more detailed and

more accurate information, the GSMD put on a lengthy presentation explaining the project. Moreover, GSMD members are being strongly encouraged to participate in the project with the hope that eventually GSMD will have sufficient genetic information about our pilgrim ancestors to identify their descendants by DNA testing. In addition, the test results will provide participants with a wealth of information about their ancestry, their racial mixture, and other related factors. For answers to questions about the project, interested members should contact Project Administrator, Mike Terry, who can be emailed at [mterry3158@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mterry3158@sbcglobal.net).

### **KSMD's 2018 Spring Meeting**



*Stephen Vest*

The latest Spring Meeting of KSMD was held on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at Idle Hour Country Club in Lexington, Kentucky.

Approximately fifty members and guests attended, and all were treated to a delicious lunch and a fun afternoon. In addition, to the great meal, special prizes, beautiful flower arrangements, and the pleasure of socializing with friends and cousins, KSMD members and guests were treated to one of the funniest and most entertaining talks ever presented at a KSMD meeting. The speech given by Stephen Vest, the

founder and publisher of the *Kentucky Monthly* magazine, was titled "Six Degrees of Separation - Kentucky Style". In a hilarious discussion of how Kentuckians interrelate, and based on actual events and conversations, Vest masterfully wove together a series of stories that had his KSMD audience laughing from start to finish and begging for more.



*Stephen Vest surrounded by KSMD members*

For a more complete description of this most recent Spring Meeting, members are directed to review a detailed rendition of the entire meeting as spelled out on KSMD's very special website found at [www.KentuckyMayflower.com](http://www.KentuckyMayflower.com).

### **KSMD's 2019 Spring Meeting**

The next Spring Meeting of KSMD will be held in Lexington, Kentucky at the beautiful Idle Hour Country Club on April 27, 2019 beginning at 11:45 a.m. As always this will be a fun-filled, entertaining event, with good food, lots of cousins, and a wonderful speaker, so you should definitely plan to attend.



#### ***Board of Assistants at 2017 Fall Meeting***

*Moving from left to right are former Governor Terry Collis, Evelyn Zolondek, Julia Slayton, David Hampton, Governor Ben J. Talbott, Jr., Bill Sullivan, former Governor Fay Charpentier-Ford, former Governor Jim Hancock, Anissa Davis, Carol Vaughan, former Governor William Carrell, II and Martina Ockerman.*