

The Mayflower Messenger

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OKLAHOMA SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

SPRING MEETING, Saturday, April 9, 2011

INVERNESS VILLAGE

3800 West 71st Street ~ Tulsa, Oklahoma 74132

Board of Assistants Meeting 10:00 A.M.

General Meeting 11:00 A.M.

LUNCH followed by PROGRAM NOON

Cost: \$ 23.00

Please send your check by April 5th, to Mildred Greenstreet,
Treasurer - 3220 South Zunis Place, Tulsa, OK 74105-2236

Ben Franklin - Electricity by Stephen Robert Smith

Ben Franklin tells the story of electricity from the Ancient Greek Thalles to modern day electricity. Sounds boring... but nothing Ben Franklin does is boring! The stories he picks are important, but chosen also for their humor. Naturally he spends quite a bit of time on his own discoveries and stories. And brings with him a variety of electricity making devices from his age and a "Van de Graff" static electric generator from our century (just for fun!) Ben tells his life story, naturally choosing stories that suit his listeners. The fun stories, the well-known stories, and the not so well-known. The Kite Story you know by heart...and the one you never heard. Naturally there are more stories than can be told...so the program can be focused on one of three area ... personal history, invention, or political history. All mixed with wild stories he wants to tell! The mood is interactive; a conversation with Ben, and when it is over, you feel that you have met a great man."





NEW MEMBERS since last meeting:

Mary Peterson OK #926 GS #82,934 (Edward Doty)

Joseph William Bowers, Jr. OK #924 GS#82,717
(George Soule)

Natalie Sparrow Fischer, OK#925, GS#82,814
(William Bradford)

TRANSFERS:

Arthur Lee St. John OK#927 GS#80,352 from FL
(William Brewster)

Cynthia Jean Wallace Storck OK#928 GS#82,727
from ME (Isaac Allerton)

IN MEMORIAM: Jeannine Long's husband, Arthur, will be greatly missed. The Oklahoma Society of Mayflower Descendants sends sincere condolences to her, her family, and friends.

Announcing Scholarship Winners!

This year we had five applications for our annual scholarship. The first place recipient (\$1,000) is Rebecca Hertz, the granddaughter of Mary Kate Ruby Parris, a long time member of our Society. Rebecca is a junior at Florida State University pursuing a double major in Editing, Writing and Media and Political Science. She has recently returned to the United States after studying a semester in Florence, Italy. This summer she will be interning at the Girl Scouts of Citrus Council in Orlando, Florida. Our second place recipient of a \$750 scholarship is Joseph Urbina, the grandson of Malcolm and Kathy Patterson, both very active members of our Society. Joseph is a freshman at Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie, Texas majoring in English. He is very active in the student government. *Congratulations to both of our recipients!*

The Chair for the Scholarship Committee is vacant. This rewarding project needs leadership. If you would be willing to volunteer to be the new Chair, please contact Henry Baer.



***The Oklahoma Society of Mayflower Descendants was
founded in 1947 and includes 270 members.***

Governor's Message



Last summer, I travelled to Plymouth with my family to celebrate my parent's 60th wedding anniversary, including my three sisters and their families. The family has grown since we celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at Myrtle Beach, SC ten years ago. Most of their grandchildren are now married and have started our next generation. We selected Myrtle Beach as that was where we spent many summers growing up and Plymouth as the place where the adventure began.

As we walked about the Mayflower II, we could only think about how courageous our ancestors were. I doubt many of us would cross the Atlantic today in such a vessel; particularly with the number of other passengers crowded on board. There would not have been much privacy, and we probably brought more luggage on our vacation than the original travelers brought aboard the Mayflower. We also toured Plimoth Plantation. As you walk towards the enclosed village, you first come to the Wampanoag Homesite. We were met by a Wampanoag in his wheelchair; one of the only interpreters that did not stay in their period character. He was very excited when we told him we travelled from Oklahoma City. He immediately expressed his desire to someday attend the Red Earth Festival. The women were tending the field and preparing a meal of rabbit stew.



As we entered the village, you see many small houses and the small gardens that surround each home. The houses reminded me of the homestead houses in Oklahoma, except they were closer together. The interpreters discussed the news of the day. In one house, a Wampanoag trader came in with furs that he wished to trade with the homeowner. It was interesting to watch the process as each did not speak the language of the other. ▢

Henry Baer III



Meet our Governor ~ Henry Baer III

Growing up in Connecticut, Henry attended Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY where he received a BA in Communications Management. He married Heather, his college sweetheart who is now an author and a middle school teacher; they have three children. After working for a bank in Bridgeport, CT, where he received a Masters in Business Administration at Sacred Heart University, the family relocated to Oklahoma City. Currently he is the Senior Vice President of Operational Standards at BancFirst, Senior Warden for St. John's Episcopal Church, the Treasurer for the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, past president and current Color Guard Commander for the Oklahoma City Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Son Tim and his wife Kirsten were recently ordained as Deacons in the Episcopal Church, and are graduating with a Masters in Theology from The Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria this May; shortly thereafter, they will be ordained as priests. Jamie, a twin daughter, is currently studying in Los Angeles where she hopes to break into the entertainment industry. Her twin, Ashley, is a sophomore at the University of Oklahoma. In his limited spare time Henry enjoys reading history, researching his genealogy and tinkering in the stock market. ▢

Meet our Deputy Governor: Judith, or Judy Fore-

hand, is a retired United States Postmaster. She now works part time at the Old Greer County Museum & Pioneer Hall of Fame in Mangum. She is also active in the Red River Tobacco Education Consortium, Southwest Area Community Theatre, SW Oklahoma Writers' League, Abundant Life Baptist Church, The Oklahoma Society of Mayflower Descendants, Mangum Civic Women and other civic organizations. She has five grown children, one stepdaughter, fourteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild living in six states. Her husband, Karl Jr., died in December, 2009. Judy loves to travel, sew and write. She has written and produced two plays, and is currently writing a novel. ▢

The Mayflower Messenger is edited by Sharlee Henshaw Kuhns. Materials for publication should be sent to her at 10812 North 155th East Avenue, Owasso, OK 74055-5246, or email: kuhnss@sbcgloba.net with Mayflower Messenger in the subject line.

CHECK OUT OUR
NEW WEBSITE:
OKMAYFLOWER.COM
LESLIE REID, EDITOR



The paintings of the Mayflower on display for our meeting were painted by Owasso, OK children attending three homeschool coops.