

## *Why should you be interested?*

1. You would be honoring the memory of those Mayflower ancestors (102) who sailed in 1620, across the Atlantic on the Mayflower, searching for a life of religious and civil freedom, and inspiring the foundation for our great democracy.
2. To honor our ancestors and keep their story alive by joining together with “cousins” who share a similar lineage.
3. Having your records securely filed with the Society, would enable your descendants to establish their genealogical lines. If you are already a member, make your family heritage available by purchasing a membership gift certificate for a loved one.
4. If you should move to a new location, your membership can be transferred. This would enable you to meet new Mayflower cousins more quickly and easily.
5. As a member, The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine would be mailed to you quarterly, (providing the latest news of the General Society), as well as our SMDPA award winning newsletter, The Pennsylvania Mayflower.
6. As a member, you are encouraged to join the activities of the State Society and its two-colonies; Western (Pittsburgh area) and Susquehanna (Harrisburg area).
7. As a member, you would receive an official GSMD membership certificate, access to “members only” area of GSMD website, free tours of the historic Mayflower Society house (built by the grandson of Pilgrim Edward Winslow in 1754), and access to mtDNA test results as part of Mayflower DNA project and much more!

## *For further information...*

Questions about the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Pennsylvania or more details about membership requirements please contact;

Nancy Larsen  
Membership Officer  
SMDPA-membership@sail1620.org  
Visit [www.SAIL1620.org](http://www.SAIL1620.org)



## *Pilgrim History*

Most people know the story of the Mayflower, which set sail in 1620 and arrived on the New England coast of America. It carried 102 passengers of English origin. Most passengers were Pilgrims seeking a new home free from religious persecution, yet one in which they could retain their English identity and a way of life (known as Separatists) The remainder of those on board the Mayflower ship were seeking a new home for the betterment of their personal situations, or for possible financial gains (known as Merchant Adventurers)

## *The Mayflower Compact*

When the Mayflower was safely anchored at Cape Cod, the Pilgrims drew up a civil document which established the system by which they wished to govern themselves. The document has come to be known as *The Mayflower Compact*.

John Quincy Adams described The Mayflower Compact as “*the finest example in modern times of a social compact or system of government instituted by voluntary agreement comfortable to the laws of nature, by men of equal rights and about to establish their community in a new country.*”

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS



1620 PLYMOUTH 1896

THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS (GSMD) IS ONE OF THE THREE LARGEST, MOST RESPECTED, AND PRESTIGIOUS HEREDITARY ORGANIZATIONS IN AMERICA. THERE ARE MAYFLOWER SOCIETIES IN ALL FIFTY STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, CANADA, AND EUROPE.

## How to Prove Your Lineage

[www.SAIL1620.org](http://www.SAIL1620.org)

The most difficult part of anything is getting started. It will be easier in the beginning to start with yourself and work back through generations. Keep in mind that you are interested in four key items; names, relationships, dates, and places (birth, marriage, death). Set up a simple form or use genealogy software to follow as you work your way through the generations back to your Mayflower ancestor.

### Lineage Work Sheet

There are many different companies producing genealogical software which can be used to track your lineage or a worksheet can be used as represented below:

#### Step 1

**Your Name** born at **Your Birth Place** on **Your Birth Date** married at **Your Marriage Place** on **Your Marriage Date** to **Your Spouse** born at **Spouse's Birth Place** on **Spouse's Birth Date**.

#### Step 2

**Father's Name** born at **Father's Birth Place** on **Father's Birth Date** died at **Father's Death Place** on **Father's Death Date** married at **Parent's Marriage Place** on **Parent's Marriage Date** to **Mother's Maiden Name** born at **Mother's Birth Place** on **Mother's Birth Date** died at **Mother's Death Place** on **Mother's Death Date**.

Repeat the form for each generation

## Documenting Your Facts

Remember as you work through your family lineage that you must document each statement for each generation. You should begin collecting photographs or scanned images of all the source materials which prove the validity of each statement. Do not cut corners in an effort to speed the process! The more sources you can provide the stronger your proof will be. Any extra documentation you have may serve as supplemental proof for a given statement.

### Source Materials

Your documentation should consist of Source materials such as the following:

1. Vital records of birth, marriage, and death
2. Bible or church records
3. Marriage bonds and licenses
4. Mortality schedules and cemetery records
5. Probate records, Guardianship or Orphan's court records
6. Land records of deed or division of property
7. Contemporary family letters and records
8. Tax assessments or exemption lists
9. Military or pension records
10. Federal or State Census Records (which state family relationships)
11. Cattle and Hog Marks

## Other Research Options

<https://www.themayflowersociety.org>

1. **“Mayflower DNA Project”** - GSMD maintains a project through FTDNA that incorporates Y chromosomal DNA (Y-DNA), mitochondrial DNA, and autosomal (nuclear) DNA. If interested, in discussing additional Y-DNA testing and genealogical record reviews that could be performed to confirm your potential Mayflower lineage, contact; “GSMD Mayflower DNA Project” Mike Terry at [mterry3158@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mterry3158@sbcglobal.net)

2. **Application** - Immediate Family proven and accepted lineage applications on file at GSMD.

3. **Patriot Project** (a work in progress)-As more information becomes available on the Internet, descendants are reaching out to connect their Revolutionary War Patriot with the Mayflower Society. Many Sons & Daughters of the American Revolution Societies are asking if they also have an ancestral tie to a Mayflower passenger and are interested in finding how they may become a member. The Patriot Project is a growing published list of Patriots who descend from Mayflower passengers and an effort to build a bridge between two important Societies.

### Who Is Eligible?

John Alden  
Bartholomew Allerton  
Isaac Allerton  
Mary (Norris) Allerton  
Remember Allerton  
Elinor Billington  
Francis Billington  
John Billington  
William Bradford  
Love Brewster  
Mary Brewster  
William Brewster  
Peter Browne  
James Chilton  
Mrs. James Chilton  
Mary Chilton  
Francis Cooke  
John Cooke  
Edward Doty  
Francis Eaton  
Samuel Eaton  
Sarah Eaton  
Moses Fletcher  
Edward Fuller  
Mrs. Edward Fuller  
Samuel Fuller

Samuel Fuller (son of Edward)  
Constance Hopkins  
Elizabeth (Fisher) Hopkins  
Giles Hopkins  
Stephen Hopkins  
John Howland  
Richard More  
Priscilla Mullins  
William Mullins  
Degory Priest  
Joseph Rogers  
Thomas Rogers  
Henry Samson  
George Soule  
Myles Standish  
Elizabeth Tilley  
John Tilley  
Joan (Hurst) Tilley  
Richard Warren  
Peregrine White  
Resolved White  
Susanna (Jackson) White  
William White  
Edward Winslow