Who Are We?

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Illinois is a not-for-profit hereditary and lineage organization. It is affiliated with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and in 1897 was one of the first state societies in the country to be recognized by the General Society.

Any person that is able to prove a bloodline to one or more passengers who sailed on the historic voyage to the Americas on the ship Mayflower in 1620 is eligible to apply for membership. The total current membership of the Illinois Society is about 1,100 members. The governance of our organization is entrusted to the Board of Assistants, a body of elected officers and board members. We have no permanent or paid staff and rely completely on the volunteer and uncompensated efforts of our membership.

In addition to reviewing, approving and maintaining documented lines from Mayflower passengers, the Illinois Mayflower Society provides educational programs, publishes a newsletter for members, maintains a web-site, awards an annual educational scholarship, awards two research grants to Newberry Library scholars, assists non-members in searching family histories and provides support to libraries and schools across the state.

Become a Member

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Illinois



Contact: Donald W. Sherman, Membership Secretary email: DWSherman2@aol.com

#### Learn more:

www.illinoismayflower.com www.facebook.com/illinoismayflowersociety www.twitter.com/ilmayflower www.ilmayflower.tumblr.com

# **General Society of Mayflower Descendants**



The Mayflower Society P.O. Box 3297 Plymouth, MA 02361-3297 508-746-3188 www.themayflowersociety.com www.facebook.com/themayflowersociety www.twitter.com/gsmd email: membership@themayflowersociety.com

Are You a

Mayflower

Descendant?



Am J One?

Many families hold a tradition that they are descended from the Pilgrims, which often kindles an interest in finding out more. Sometimes the stories of a Mayflower heritage are true and it is easy to document a descent. More often the documentation is missing and must be researched and supplied to prove one's line. The good news is that advanced research techniques, improved genealogy library collections and computerized resources have made it easier to track down your Pilgrim roots.

Many descendants of Mayflower passengers, for a variety of reasons, are not aware of their Mayflower heritage. You may be one of those individuals. You should know that the majority of individuals who join the Illinois Mayflower Society each year were not previously aware of their Mayflower heritage.



Membership

Any person able to document their descent from one or more of the following Mayflower Pilgrims is eligible to apply for membership in the Mayflower Society:

## Mayflower Passenger List:

John Alden Bartholomew Allerton Isaac Allerton Mary (Norris) Allerton Mary 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 White William White Edward Winslow



## **Recommended Documentation:**

The best documentation to look for is vital records such as the birth, marriage, and death certificates for each person. Other documentation might be published genealogies, family documents and other official records. If you have a relative who is a member of the Society, you may be able to use their lineage documentation to help you with your research.

#### **Getting Started:**

Memberships are handled through state societies. The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Illinois looks forward to assisting you in researching, documenting and proving your Mayflower line. The first step is to contact our Membership Secretary, Donald W. Sherman. He can be reached via email at DWSherman2@aol.com. To start the process, Don will provide you with a preliminary application to be completed and returned. You will then be assigned to work with one of our three experienced state historians to document your line.

We look forward to having you join us at the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Illinois.