

The Pilgrim Legacy



May 30, 2022
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Notes From the Governor; Dianna Saario

What a wonderful spring day, on May 14, we had my first meeting as your San Joaquin Valley Colony Governor. As I looked out and welcomed our guests, the golf course came into view, I wondered how our Mayflower Ancestors would have greeted a day such as ours. Would they be out in the forest hunting for meat? Were they hurrying to get the fields planted? I wonder who was fishing like my grandfather did to bring home a wonderful meal for dinner.

I hope to bring you many more speakers such as Kathleen Watson who filled in for her husband Marston Watson. I certainly enjoyed the message about Pilgrim Edward Winslow and his wife Susanna Jackson. Our next speaker slated for Saturday, November 5, is California State Captain, Miles Standish, and yes, he is a direct descendant of Pilgrim Miles Standish. Please come join us for another stimulating look into the incredible life stories of all our Pilgrim ancestors.

May Meeting

Our May meeting took place on Saturday, May 14, 2022 at the Sunnyside Country Club. The meeting, which started at 10:30 AM with a "Meet & Greet," was held in an expansive room overlooking the golf course. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM and ended about 1:00 PM. All future meetings are slated to occur here.

An acknowledgement goes out to Diane Nitta for arranging our meeting location and to both Diane and Bev Wyman for all the work that goes into setting up such an event.

Sunnyside Country Club
5704 East Butler Ave, Fresno CA 93727
(559) 251-6011

May Meeting Photo



Front Row Left to Right: Micki Beston, Faith Haag, Dianna Saario, Kathy Watson, Diane Nitta, Sue Benson, and Alden Owen

Second Row Left to Right: Dennis Wyman, Larry Beston, Dan Cabe, Bev Wyman, Janet Mason, Mark Storch, Janet Kirk, John Benson, and Janet Nichols

Lunch Menu

Lunch was served by the staff of the Sunnyside Country Club. Those who attended ordered from a menu with a selection of salads and sandwiches. Coffee and tea were also available for an all-inclusive price of \$25.

Opportunity Drawing

A new feature of our meetings is our Opportunity Drawing. For a donation of \$1.00 per ticket, or 6 tickets for \$5.00, you were given a chance to select something from “Old Willy’s Treasurer Box.”

New Colony Members

We formally welcomed three new members to our colony on Saturday, May 14. They were Mark Storch, Janet Nichols and Sue Benson.

Open Positions

We’re in need of fellow members to step forward and assume positions of leadership in our colony. The three open positions are those of Chaplain, Publicist, & Assistant to the Colony Membership Chair. Please contact Dianna Saario if you are interested. sjvcgovernor@gmail.com

California Mayflower Quarterly

If you have a preference regarding the format in which you receive the California Mayflower Quarterly (Printed via US Mail, or PDF via email) please let Governor, Dianna Saario know. (559) 280-3450 - Or - sjvcgovernor@gmail.com

Birthdays - Get Well Cards - Sympathy Notices – Or...

Please notify Deputy Governor Bev Wyman for acknowledgement of a special event.

bevawyman@yahoo.com

Book Review by Diane Nitta
The Story of the Scallop Shell; Symbol of Pilgrims & Hospitality
Author: Diane Finn

I came across The Story of the Scallop Shell; Symbol of Pilgrims & Hospitality, on the Mayflower Society website, <https://themayflowersociety.org>.

The book was written by Diane Finn. Diane is a retired teacher, author and tour guide who lives in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The name of her company is The Tin Lantern Press. Her website is located at <https://thetinlanternpress.com>.

I was intrigued by the significance of the scallop shell and the stories of it as a symbol of hospitality going back to ancient times. This booklet provides a definition, explanation, and examples of the scallop shell's significance and various uses throughout history. These include its relationship to both Native Americans and Pilgrims. Scallop shells are featured in monuments and Burial Hill grave markers in Plymouth, Massachusetts. As we were working on the May 14 meeting, I thought a fun theme would be to use the scallop shell as part of our table decor. The short time I have been involved with our Colony, I have experienced a sense of friendliness and hospitality among the members. I think our respective research journeys to find our ancestors is like a pilgrimage and the help we can give each other reflects the hospitality referenced through the meaning of the scallop shell.

We can offer this book to members for a \$5.00 donation to our Colony. If you are interested but don't want to wait until November, you may contact me at tdnitta@gmail.com. for arrangements to receive it earlier.
Diane Nitta

Dianna Saario: Our Guest Speaker

Our Guest Speaker was Kathleen Watson, Deputy Governor North of the California Mayflower Society. Kathleen is the wife of Marston Watson. Marston was slated to be our speaker but was unable to attend. His wife, Kathleen, gave Marston's presentation in his stead. The presentation was titled, "Pilgrim Edward Winslow." Marston is one of the few Pilgrim Edward Winslow descendants in the State of California. He is an author of many genealogy books, is a well-known speaker, and Parliamentarian of the California Mayflower Society, in addition to many other credits and honors to his name.

Virtual Meeting

We had several members attend our meeting virtually.
We would like to thank Scott Haag for his expertise in making this possible.

Faith Haag: Treasurer

Our Colony balance as of May 9, 2022 is \$3,508.15. We have no outstanding bills or deposits. I will provide an updated report at our Compact meeting in November.

Dan Cabe: Newsletter Editor / Webmaster

This newsletter is also available on our website:
<https://sanjoaquinvalleycolony.org>