



Illinois Mayflower News

Since 1897

Fall 2010



How am I able to thank each and everyone of you for having given me the most rewarding opportunity to have served as your Governor of our State Society for the past three years? It has been a most rewarding and humbling experience to have served with you during this period. I will never forget your entrusting me with this position.

I was only able to serve you as Governor because of the knowledge, depth of experience and integrity of those officers and members of the Board of Assistants who provided much guidance in my journey. A coach is only successful if his or her team works well together. What a strong pool of talent and experience our officers and Board of Assistants members bring to our Society!

Our Nominating Committee has placed in nomination individuals who will continue to serve our Society in a most capable manner. I have total confidence that our Society will be under the leadership of people who place the well-being and traditions of our Society foremost in their minds.

On Saturday, November 20, we will meet in Springfield at the Executive Mansion for our Fall Luncheon and

Annual Meeting. We are most honored to have as our speaker and guest, Judith Swan, Governor General of the Mayflower Society. Judy will be sharing with us about current programs and activities of our General Society in Plymouth. Our Governor General has served our General Society in such a capable and caring manner.

Her efforts and expertise have guided our General Society in a most positive manner during her term. Elsewhere in this issue of Illinois Mayflower News you will find details about a most generous gift of Museum Artist Posters which was coordinated by artist William Conger, a member of our Board of Assistants. This gift will benefit our Scholarship Fund for our State Society. Anyone who makes a donation of fifty dollars or more to our Scholarship Fund may select an Artist Poster of their choice as a gift for their donation to the Scholarship Fund.

Our Society has undertaken several programs that have been most successful. Our Scholarship Program is well underway. Our first scholarship was awarded at our Spring Luncheon in Glenview.

Our website has proven to be most useful and is revised regularly. It has served to satisfy many communication needs of our Society and to provide much needed information to many prospective members.

Our addition of two more Historians has helped our Society to process applications in much less time. Again, we thank Governor Cory Randall of the Michigan Society for facilitating the training of our Historians in Fort Wayne at the Allen County Library.

Another program which generated great interest were the sessions conducted by Historian Max Brown for those interested in researching a Mayflower connection. He gave a Power Point presentation which

gave background of Pilgrim history plus methods and tools that could be used in researching one's ancestry.

A Board of Assistants Planning Retreat was held at the Union League Club to target and assess future goals and plans for the Society.

I hope to see all of you at our Fall Luncheon in Springfield in November. As mentioned previously, your permitting me to serve you in my position has provided me with very worthwhile and memorable experiences. One of my true blessings was meeting all of the genuine people who are members of our State Society. I shall indeed treasure these friendships and opportunities.

May God, our great Navigator, steer both our nation and our Society on a straight and worthy course. Bless our nation and keep strong the values and determination of our Pilgrim ancestors. May each of you be blessed now and as you go through your journey of life.

Ralph

Mayflower Board Meetings

Meetings of the Board of Assistants for 2010 are held the first Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at 1 South Wacker Drive on the 24th floor in the Board Room of Attorney's Title Guaranty Fund, Inc., as guests of Peter Birnbaum. Remaining meetings for 2010 will be on the following dates:

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

Wednesday, November 3, 2010

The general meeting/fall luncheon will be held at the Governor's Mansion in Springfield, Illinois on Saturday, November 20, 2010.

Membership Updates

Please contact Membership Secretary, Don Sherman with any changes of address, phone numbers and preliminary applications. Contact him at:

Don Sherman

1472 E. Algonquin Rd.

DesPlaines, IL 60016-6628

847-977-8907

DWSherman2@aol.com

2009 - 2010 Board of Assistants

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Historian, Jon Austin

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Historian, Max Brown

708-771-6886 max_d_brown@Rush.edu

Historian, Marge Piersen

847-945-6584 marge.piersen@comcast.net

Treasurer, John Schellinger

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Captain, Dorr Lewright

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Corresponding Secretary, Sylvia Brewer

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Elder, Jane Schleinzer

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Assistant: Bob Anstine

309-833-5491 abobglenda@aol.com

Assistant: William Conger

773-248-2430 w-conger@nwu.edu

Past Governor, Don West

312-804-4454 DONWEST@aol.com

We are always looking for members who are interested in becoming members of the Board of Assistants. It's a dedicated group of people who enjoy working together to further our society's goals. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Governor, Ralph Moore at 217-498-7891 or carmor1@comcast.net.

Mayflower Spring Luncheon

The Spring Luncheon of the Descendants of the Mayflower Society in Illinois was held on Saturday, May 15, 2010 at the Glenview Park District Golf Club. There were 87 people in attendance, including past governors Don West, Connie O’Kieffe and Dick Damisch.

We were delighted to have as our speaker Jay Bonansinga, author of the book, *The Sinking of the Eastland*. On Saturday, July 24, 1915 the steamship, *The Eastland* sank in the Chicago River between LaSalle and Clark Streets, killing 844 people. Mr. Bonansinga’s book is meticulously factually accurate, yet it reads like a novel. It’s a story of individual people — those who were on the boat, those brave and heroic people who saved many, and those who dealt with the aftermath of the tragedy. It was fascinating to hear him speak about a part of Chicago’s history that had been almost forgotten.

The first Mayflower Scholarship was awarded in the spring of 2010. A presentation was made to the recipient, Benjamin Ujcich, by Committee chair, Al Berry. Benjamin’s mother and grandmother also attended the luncheon.



Board member Al Berry presenting scholarship to recipient, Benjamin Ujcich



Governor Ralph Moore with past governors Don West, Dick Damisch and Connie O’Kieffe



Historian, Max Brown



Board Member Rosalie Clary



Author and speaker, Jay Bonansinga

2010-2011 Proposed Board of Assistants

All positions are elected for a one year term, but officers may repeat terms, as specified in the Society bylaws.

Governor	Max Brown	708-771-6886	max_d_brown@Rush.edu
Deputy Governor	Jane Schleinzer	630-851-2576	JSantiques@aol.com
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Assistant: Art Advisor	William Conger	773-248-2430	w-conger@nwu.edu
Assistant	Bob Anstine	309-833-5491	abobglenda@aol.com
Assistant	Sally Krigbaum	217-429-5606	JS2414@aol.com
Assistant	Carolyn Pribble	217-688-2257	cpribble@illinois.edu
Assistant	Mary Wlodarski	630-881-2580	mcwlod@speakeasy.net
Past-Governor	Ralph Moore	217-498-7891	carmor1@comcast.net

New Members

These are new members since the last issue. LIFE membership payments and any changes which occur after AUGUST 15 (for the October issue) and after FEBRUARY 15 (for the April issue) will not appear in the current newsletter. Memberships which occur after the above dates will be listed in the next issue.

NEW MEMBER	NUMBER	HOME	ANCESTOR
Elizabeth Ann Limoges	82293	Highland Park, IL	William Brewster
Mary Frances Kieffer	82292	West Salem, IL	John Alden
Julia Suzanne Lyons	82270	Downers Grove, IL	Edward Fuller
Michelle Lynette Buennemeyer	82269	Chatham, IL	Edward Fuller
Edwin G. Garver	82237	Evergreen Park, IL	Edward Fuller
Daria Myers	82079	Oak Brook, IL	William White
John Stephen Kemp	79242	Urbana, IL	Edward Fuller
Susan Lynn Fallon	82015	Western Springs, IL	George Soule
Mary Katherine Tilstra	81958	Onarga, IL	Stephen Hopkins
Patricia Gay Crommett	81957	Lewistown, IL	William Bradford
Shannon Elizabeth Fosler	81948	Naperville, IL	Priscilla Mullins



Scholarship recipient Benjamin Ujcich with his grandmother, Marian Roy Elson, and his mother Beverly Ujcich

Benjamin Ujcich Receives 2010 Mayflower Scholarship

Benjamin Ujcich, an honors student, a National Merit Finalist and a junior member of the Illinois Society of Mayflower Descendants, was the first recipient of the Illinois Mayflower Scholarship Award. Charles "Al" Berry, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, made the announcement of the award at the Spring Meeting at the Glenview Golf Club on May 15, 2010. Mr. Ujcich was one of several outstanding candidates who applied for the award this year.

Ben graduated this year from Scholars Academy in Conway, South Carolina, with a class ranking of 2nd out of 381 students. He was very involved in a number of extra-curricular activities at the college-prep school relating to science, history and mathematics. He presented several projects relating to running weather forecasts at both international and national science fairs. Ben will continue his interest in computers by pursuing a degree in computer engineering at Clemson University where he has been accepted in its honors college program.

As his high school counselor reported in her enthusiastic recommendation of Ben, "Ben's academic record with exceptionally high test scores and outstanding grades in a very rigorous curriculum of studies evidence his intelligence and diligent work habits. Prior to his senior year Ben completed nine college credit courses and six advanced placement courses, all with A's. Ben has received many honors, including National Beta Club, Junior Marshal, AP Scholar with Distinction and an

invitation in his junior year for membership in Coastal Carolina University's honor society, Phi Eta Sigma."

The member recommendation was provided by his grandmother, Marian Roy Elson, who described her grandson as having numerous interests beyond the classroom and being blessed with an extraordinary memory and ability to talk in depth on many subjects. She also pointed out other qualities of her grandson, including his commitment to living a balanced life and doing good for the benefit of others. She was confident that he would keep his eyes on those truly important goals and in his own family keep alive the memory of his ancestors "who made a rough crossing on a famous boat."

In addition to Charles Berry, others serving on the Scholarship Committee included Ralph Moore, Mary Morony, Mary Gardner, Rosalie Clary and Max Brown.

The following is a letter received from Benjamin Ujcich after his recognition for the Mayflower Scholarship at the Spring Luncheon.

"Dear Mrs. Brewer and the Board of Assistants:

I would like to thank the Illinois Mayflower Society for selecting me for the 2010 Memorial Scholarship and acknowledging me at the luncheon earlier this month. I greatly appreciate the Society's efforts to reward rising college students, and there is no doubt that the scholarship will be put to good use in my studies at Clemson University. I enjoyed the luncheon very much, and I look forward to participating in future events that the Society hosts.

Thanks again for providing me with this opportunity.

Sincerely,
Benjamin E. Ujcich

Illinois Mayflower Ornaments



If you would like one of the few remaining Illinois Mayflower Society ornaments, please contact Governor, Ralph Moore. Cost is \$18.00 plus shipping.

Fall 2010 Mayflower Annual Meeting

We are fortunate to be able to hold our Fall Annual Meeting/Luncheon at the Executive Mansion in Springfield on Saturday, November 20, 2010. Since 2006 we have been planning our fall meetings that occur in even years in Springfield to give members who live down state a chance to attend without the trip up to the Chicago area. It also gives those from the Chicago area the opportunity to experience some of the wonderful historic opportunities that are available in the Springfield area.

We are privileged to have as our speaker, the Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, Judith H. Swann. She was elected to her current position in September 2008 and serves for a three year term. We're all pleased to welcome her to Springfield, to our Illinois Mayflower Society, and looking forward to hearing about what's happening at the national level.

We're pleased to have awarded our first Illinois Mayflower Scholarship this spring. To help support the Scholarship Fund, we will have art posters on display. Those who donate \$50 or more to the Scholarship fund can select a poster in appreciation of their donation. Please see more details and sample posters on page 11 of this newsletter.

Directions to the Executive Mansion will be included in the invitation, which should be arriving shortly. Because of limited seating at the Executive Mansion, be certain to send in your reservations as soon as possible, once you've received your invitation.

Donors Give Generously to Mayflower Scholarship Fund

Members of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Illinois have generously contributed over \$4,500 this past year to the Mayflower Scholarship fund. Donations by members of any amount are appreciated. Many members have contributed at the \$100 level or more. Members who contribute \$100 or more are asked to name an ancestor in whose name their gift is given. The names of the donors and their honored ancestors are posted on the Illinois Society web site at <http://www.illinoismayflower.com>. Click on the Memorial Scholarship Fund link and in the body of the text on that page you will see another link to the Scholarship Fund Recent Donors List. In this way members may remember the past.

Members should also be aware that by donating to the scholarship fund they are also supporting the future. All of the monies donated to this fund go directly for educational scholarships. Each year the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Illinois will award \$2,500 to a young scholar selected by a scholarship committee of the Board of Assistants. If you would like to contribute to this fund please see the donation card directly below. Please fill out the card and make your check payable to the Illinois Mayflower Scholarship. Send it to Chairman of the Scholarship Committee: Max Douglas Brown, 7575 Lake Street #2A, River Forest, Illinois 60305.

Mayflower Memorial Scholarship Fund

\$100 \$500 \$1,000 Other _____

Please make check payable to: **Mayflower Scholarship Fund**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

My contribution is being made in honor of the following Mayflower ancestor or family:

_____ of City _____ State _____

Judith H Swan, Governor General



Born on Martha's Vineyard Island, Massachusetts, Judy is the younger of two children. Moving to the dry climate of Arizona at an early age, she was an active participant in school leadership, serving as Student Body President in her senior year of high school. In this capacity, she attended a National Student Leadership Workshop held in Estes Park, Colorado, one of the highlights of her high school year.

Married with two children and five grandchildren, Judy was employed by the State of California for 22 years and retired in 2004. She served eight years on her city's Community Service Commission and was a participant in the Leader's Program of the National Institute for Leadership Development. Judy holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master's degree in Business.

Judy is a past governor and Treasurer of the Orange County Colony of Mayflower Descendants; has served the California Mayflower Society in several positions and currently serves as Investment General Society of Mayflower Descendants, she served two 3- year terms as Treasurer General, served as Co-Director and then Director of the 5 Generations Project, and was elected to the Governor General position in September 2008.

New Women's Lines Membership

Shannon Elizabeth Fosler, from Naperville, Illinois became a member of the Mayflower Descendants in the State of Illinois on April 16, 2010. She is the first person in Illinois to gain membership through the new officially recognized women's lines. Her membership is from Priscilla Mullins. Congratulations, Shannon Elizabeth!

New Member Recognition Ceremony

Our Fall Mayflower Annual Meeting will include a time to recognize our newest members. Our goal is to make new members feel truly welcome into our membership, while honoring our ancestors. We began this tradition of welcoming new members last fall at the Annual Meeting 2009 and will continue to honor our new members at the Fall Meeting each year. Last year Board Members Jane Schleinzer and Nancy Blake created a short, meaningful ceremony in which new members participate and are recognized by all attending members. We are pleased to continue this tradition.

We are proud to honor the following new members at the fall luncheon in Springfield on November 20.

Allen Anstine
Michelle Lynette Buennemeyer
Patricia Gay Crommett
Karen Lynn DeWitt
Susan Lynn Fallon
Edwin G. Garver
Myrtle Mildred Marie Kasten
John Stephen Kemp
Mary Frances Kieffer
Elizabeth Ann Limoges
Julia Suzanne Lyons
Daria Myers
Kristine Ann Olson
Robert John Peabody
Rebecca Lynn Pitt
Robert Neil Snow
Cary Randall Stone-Greenstein
Mary Katherine Tilstra
Sherrie Irene VanderVelde

Please contact Board Member Jane Schleinzer, JSantiques@aol.com or 630-851-2576, if you will be in attendance at the fall annual meeting to assist in her planning the ceremony.



Don West, past-governor, Mary Morony, deputy governor,
Ralph Moore, governor

New Junior Associates

Listed are those who became Junior Associates between February 15, 2010, when the last issue of the *Illinois Mayflower News* was sent to the printer, and August 2010:

<u>Jr. #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
2008	Douglas Church Johansen Cannon	Patricia Sue Johansen	William Bradford
2009	Cavan Anthony Lusch	Melanie Lusch & Edward E. Perry	Isaac Allerton

An application to become a Junior Associate may be obtained from Mary E. Gardner, 106 Thoroughbred Lane, Sleepy Hollow, IL 60118. Her phone is 847-428-7561, although she prefers e-mail to megardner@earthlink.net. A completed application must be returned to Ms. Gardner for each applicant, with a check for \$15.00 and two copies of the original birth certificate from vital statistics (stating the name of the father and showing the mother's maiden name). The birth certificate is kept on file to facilitate the transition at a later date from Junior Associate to a full adult membership application.

The National Society Junior Chairman has a **Facebook** page for all Junior Members. The name of the group is **Mayflower Jr Members**. I encourage all Junior members to make contact with other Junior members through Facebook.



Educational Resources for Junior Members

Did you know there are a lot of fun activities online at Plimoth.org? Just click on the 'kids' link at the top of the page and you will have the choice of coloring pages, recipes, make at home, stories, talk like a pilgrim and homework help. Browse the rest of the site to find out what is happening at Plimoth Plantation!

Check your local or school library for these books:

Picture Books:

Felix and His Mayflower II Adventures

How Chipmunk Got His Strips

M is for Mayflower

Three Young Pilgrims

Older Children:

Mayflower and the Pilgrim's New World

National Geographic: Pilgrims of Plymouth

Mayflower 1620: A New Look at a Pilgrim Voyage

from Utah Society of Mayflower Descendants, Spring 2010



Board Seeks Future At Retreat

Governor Ralph Moore welcomed an enthusiastic group of Board members to participate in a board retreat on Saturday, April 24th at the Union League Club in Chicago. The three hour session was focused on the development of a mission statement, assessing organizational strengths and weaknesses and setting short-term goals. Attending the retreat were Governor Ralph Moore, Lieutenant Governor Mary, former Governor Don West, Captain Dorr Lewright, Junior Membership Secretary Mary Gardner, Newsletter Editor Luann Benoit, assistant Historians Marge Piersen and Max Brown and future assistant Historian Mary Wlodarski.

After reviewing the purposes of the corporation as set forth in our bylaws, the participants identified a number of the important functions currently carried on by the organization including reviewing and approving membership lines, providing educational programs, supporting numerous state libraries with strong genealogical sections, publishing a semi-annual newsletter, maintaining a web site, awarding an annual scholarship and holding two educational meetings for members.

A dedicated board and an enthusiastic membership were identified by the participants as two of the notable strengths of the organization. Other strengths named were a strong history, good connections with other heritage societies and financial solvency. Communication barriers with prospective members was seen as an important hurdle which needed to be overcome and an untapped, potentially active membership was listed as the number one opportunity for the organization in the future.

In advance of the retreat the participants had reviewed numerous mission statements adopted by for-profit and other not-for-profit corporations as well as many genealogical and heritage societies across the country. After a relatively brief discussion, the participants unanimously adopted the mission statement proposed by Don West: "To promote Mayflower history and ideals." (It was suggested by the retreat participants that this mission statement be offered for consideration by the full Board at its May meeting. At the May meeting the mission statement was formally adopted by the Board of Assistants.)

As the final order of business of the retreat the participants listed the goals for the upcoming year. In no order of priority, the goals listed are as follows:

- Increase membership
- Explore expansion of colonies in other areas of the state: Galesburg? Galena? Carbondale? Champaign-Urbana?
- Continue scholarship program
- Increase imaginative and productive fund raising efforts
- Address issue of storage of archival records
- Communicate more with membership through web site
- Develop a succession plan for board leadership

Everyone who participated in the board retreat thought it was a very productive and useful exercise. We welcome the comments and suggestions of the general membership as to the new mission statement of our Society and the proposed goals for the coming year.



Max Brown, Mary Morony, Mary Gardner, Mary Wlodarski, Don West, Dorr Lewright, Marge Piersen, Luann Benoit, Ralph Moore



Dorr Lewright, Don West, Ralph Moore, Mary Morony, Mary Gardner

Annual Meeting in San Diego

This coming September 7 weekend, the Board of Assistants ("BOA") of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants ("GSMD") will hold its Annual Meeting in San Diego, California. Every three years, GSMD holds a Triennial Congress in Plymouth, MA. The year after, an interim meeting of the BOA is held in a state away from Massachusetts that some State Society bids to host. The second year or one just prior to the next Congress traditionally is held in the state of the current Governor General. Thus California, home to Gov. Gen. Judy Swan, is hosting this year's Annual Meeting of the BOA.

The BOA is made up of general society officers, past Governor Generals and Assistant Governor Generals, and a Deputy Governor General ("DGG") from each State Society and an Assistant General ("AG") from each state society. In Illinois our Bylaws provide that the current Governor is the DGG and the immediate past Governor is the AG. This year we have chosen to make our Governor nominee, Max Brown, the AG since Don West already has a vote as a past Assistant Governor General of the GSMD.

Because all elections of officers, changes to the Constitution or Bylaws and changes to any fees must take place at the General Congress, the interim Annual Meeting of the BOA is used to review upcoming matters and inform the members of what has transpired the past year. The main matter coming before the BOA is a proposal by the GSMD Constitution and Bylaws Committee to combine the two documents into one. The purpose is to make them more readable and resolve confusion between the two documents. Illinois has agreed to help sponsor this proposal as part of our desire to see the GSMD operate on a more business like basis. There will be some opposition from a group of former officers who resist all forms of change. It is imperative, however, that GSMD is brought into current operating procedures to avoid much of the legal exposure it has risked in the past.

There will also be constructive meetings of Historians, Junior Membership Secretaries and the like to move the activities of the GSMD forward.

Governor Ralph Moore serving as Illinois DGG, Governor nominee Max Brown serving as AG and Don West, immediate past Governor and past Assistant Governor General of the GSMD will all represent Illinois at the meeting.

Applications Accepted for 2011 Mayflower Scholarship

Do you have a child, grandchild, niece or nephew who is in need of funds for college? Or do you know of another young candidate worthy of receiving assistance? If so, you will want to let them know about the Mayflower Scholarship Fund. Applications are now being accepted for the 2011 with an award of \$2,500.

To be eligible an applicant must be nominated by a member of the Illinois chapter. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of academic achievement, extra-curricular activities, community service and financial need. A complete set of qualifying criteria may be found on our web site at <http://www.ilinoismayflower.com>. Click on the tab for "Memorial Scholarship Fund."

Members of the Illinois chapter are also invited to support this worthwhile project which represents one of the largest scholarships award by any state society. Your support of this effort is very much appreciated.

In Memoriam

- N. Lucile Waters Bosomworth
Died April 1, 2010
- Anne Stuart Batchelder
Died October 28, 2010
- Florence Mitchell Lowes
Died April 13, 2008
- Jean Rumsey
Died October 12, 2009
- Capt. James Edward Williams
Died February 28, 2007
- Mary Pearl Peterson Whitman
Died July 27, 2009
- Lowrie Glenn Simms
Died March 24, 2010
- Richard Dayton Calhoun
Died June, 17, 2008
- Irene Esther Reynolds Murphy
Died November 20, 2008
- Nancy Shurtleff Merritt
Died December 19, 2009
- Jean Marie Manthei
Died August 4, 2010

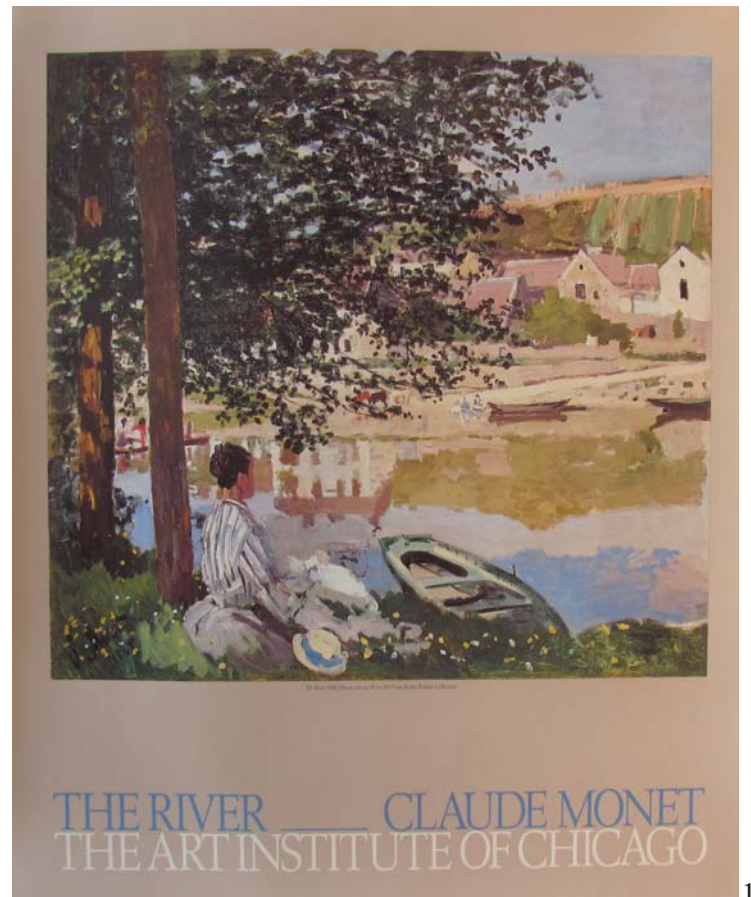
Our deepest sympathies to the families and friends of our deceased members. May God be with them on their final voyage.

Donation of Art Posters to Benefit the Mayflower Scholarship Fund

Artist William Conger of Chicago has most generously coordinated a donation of a number of Museum Art Posters to be given to members who contribute \$50.00 or more to our Scholarship Fund while they are attending our Fall Luncheon at the Executive Mansion on November 20 in Springfield. Those making this contribution to the Scholarship Fund may choose a poster in appreciation of their donation.

William has become a most welcome member of our Board of Assistants. He serves most ably as our Fine Arts Resource Specialist. He is an experienced and valued member of the Art community.

The posters are the type sold at museum stores, mostly announcing exhibitions at the Art Institute of Chicago or the former Terra Museum. The selections range from 17th-18th century Dutch painting to 21st century modernist painting. Although these posters show images of past exhibitions, they themselves are fresh from storage. They will be very popular for decorating the home, office, dorm room, etc. William will donate suitable tubes for transporting the posters.



Illinois Mayflower News is published by the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Illinois

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Please check your mailing label. Report any changes or errors to Don Sherman, Membership Secretary.

**Please visit our website at:
www.illinoismayflower.com**

**Fall Luncheon:
Saturday, November 20, 2010
Springfield, Illinois**