



Summary of February 18, 2017 Joint Membership Meeting of the San Diego Chapter of the SAR & the San Diego Mayflower Society

The San Diego Colony Mayflower Descendants hosted a joint meeting and breakfast with the San Diego Chapter of the SAR at the Green Tavern Dragon & Museum in Carlsbad, CA. The theme of the meeting was the celebration of the founding of Plymouth Colony in 1620, 397 years ago; members of the Mayflower Society can trace their lineage back to the original passengers and crew that established that colony in 1620.

Guest and members arrived at 9:00am for a half hour of socializing after which the Governor of the San Diego Mayflower Society, Ray Raser called the meeting to order at 9:30am. The Invocation was offered by General Society Mayflower Descendant Elder General Kenneth Whittemore. The Colors were advanced by the San Diego Color Guard with participation by Kathleen Loftman of the Mayflower Society and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Fred Hall of the San Diego Chapter of the SAR. Richard Bailey of the Mayflower Society led the Pilgrim Pledge and 1st Vice President Steve Wright of the San Diego SAR led the Pledge to the SAR.

Governor Ray Raser then welcomed all Mayflower and SAR members and guest. Rev. Dr. Stan De Long, Chaplain of the San Diego SAR, offered Table Grace for the Breakfast meal and a buffet style breakfast was served consisting of Scramble eggs, bacon, biscuits and gravy and fruit. Coffee, decaf, orange juice and water was also available.

Following breakfast, Governor Ray Raser introduced the Mayflower Board members and special guest, General Society Mayflower Descendent Elder General Kenneth Whittemore and the Governor of the Los Angeles Mayflower Society Franklin Smith. Fred Hall, President of the San Diego Chapter of the SAR then introduced the San Diego Board members, including First Lady of the Chapter Mrs. Hall and past President Dennis Cushman.

Anita Guenin of the Mayflower Society led the Pilgrim Ancestor Roll Call which consist of calling out the names of the passengers and crew from the manifest of the Mayflower and asking any member who was descended from the name to stand and be recognized as a way of honoring these original settlers and the hardships they endured on their travails to and in the New World.

Governor Ray Raser then asked all SAR members present to stand and be recognized as a way to honor their ancestor's sacrifices in the American War for Independence, otherwise known as the Revolutionary War. The Rev. Dr. Stan De Long reminded members that George Washington's 285th Birthday was fast approaching this coming Wednesday, February 22.

Budd Leef, Assistant Governor of the San Diego Mayflower Society then introduced the speaker and producer of the main program for the event, Susan Mattern, who produced an historical presentation for the program entitled "Saints & Strangers. Susan gave a talk on the preparation and voyage and subsequent establishment of the Plymouth Bay Colony in Massachusetts by the Pilgrims. After the



presentation, a game of Tic Tac Toe was set up with a large board divided up as a standard tic tac toe board with Velcro attached to each square to facilitate the placing of Styrofoam blocks when playing the game. After Susan's talk two teams were picked, one called the "Saints" and the other the "Strangers" to compete in a test of the knowledge they gained during Susan's presentation. Participants in the "Saints" team were Bill Peter, Beverly Willey and Kathleen Loftman all of the Mayflower Society. The second team called the "Strangers" consisted of Budd Leef, Jennifer Anklesaria and Jim Mattern. As Susan introduced each contestant in the character of a person from the Colony the contestant would give a brief bio of their life in the Colony. Jim was the only SAR participant. Susan would ask a question of a team and the team would attempt to answer mostly by consulting with one another or asking the audience to wave a red or green flag if they thought a particular answer was right or wrong. After a team had answered a question, the opposing team would get a turn, etc. The contestants could accept or reject the audience's opinion. Three games were played with two of them being ties and the very first game being won by the Saints.

At the conclusion of the main program Susan Mattern was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Mayflower Society for her highly informative and entertaining presentation of "Saints & Strangers."

Kathleen Loftman encouraged members and guest to attend the 400th Anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth to be held in 2020 at Boston, MA.

Mayflower member Jenifer Anklesaria asked all members and guest to try and attend the San Diego County History Day competition taking place on the 27th of February at the San Diego County Office of Education from 9:00am to 3:00pm. She promised you won't be disappointed by the young talented presenters.

The Benediction was offered by California Mayflower Elder Jan Landt and the SAR Recessional by Steve Wright.

The Color Guard retired the Colors and Governor Raser closed the meeting.

Regards,

Bob Hayden

Secretary San Diego Chapter SAR