

CA Colony Plans for the 2020 Celebration

We have the unique opportunity and honor to witness and celebrate the 400th anniversary of the crossing of the Mayflower and the arrival of the passengers in the new world. This event will take place in less than 2 years!

So what are you going to do in your colony to celebrate the upcoming event? We on the California 2020 Planning Committee are excited to hear from each of our California colonies. We hope that by sharing ideas and plans, other colonies will become inspired and start their planning.

We are asking each of our California colony governors to provide us with your tentative plans and ideas. We are looking forward to hearing from you. Remember, there are only about 26 months remaining to plan and execute your plans!

Here is what some of our colonies are planning:

The **Alameda Colony** plans to sell the commemorative coins and raise pennies for pedals in support of our Tournament of Roses parade float.

The **Inland Empire Colony** plans to sell the commemorative coins and plans to discuss a 2020 special project at their September 2018 meeting.

The **Orange County Colony's** primary 2020 focus is to hold an event with a speaker's panel of well known historians and authors who have written prominent Pilgrim and Mayflower historical works and documentaries at the Bower's Museum in Santa Ana on October 3, 2020. In addition, they are working with the museum to develop a Pilgrim and Mayflower Exhibition for the last quarter of 2020 (October to December) following the event. It will be a travelling exhibition with a few artifacts and paintings exhibited at three libraries in the county and culminating in a larger exhibition at the Bower's Museum at the end of the year. They will be promoting these events as an educational display tentatively called "Discover the Pilgrim in You."

The **Redwood Empire Colony** plans to hold a musical play about William Brewster to be performed in the Sonoma and Marin counties.

The **Santa Barbara Colony** plans to partner with the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society to hold an event at the Arroyo Grade Library and to celebrate annually (2018-2020) on Pilgrim Day.

The **San Diego Colony** is planning their first 400th anniversary event for Compact Day, November 11, 2018 called "Plimoth Plantation West—In Anticipation." The event will be held at the world famous Balboa Park and is sponsored by the House of England, one of the House of Public Relations International Cottages that was built in 1935 for the California Pacific International Exposition.

Plimoth Plantation West is focused on outreach and education. There will be multiple interactive displays showing aspects of what was happening two years before the famous voyage and the life and demographics of the travelers. In addition, roving re-enactors representing the Mayflower passengers will greet guests and talking about their upcoming voyage. This event is planned to be expanded and re-presented in November 2020.

In addition to these events, the San Diego colony has plans to participate in local parades, attend the Padres game together, provide outreach to schools and other historical organizations, and hold a Mayflower tea.

The **Sequoia Colony** plans a major public event at the San Francisco pier in September or November 2020

Submitted by Kathleen Loftman