

# The Spirit of '76



Published by the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, June 1997

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## President-General's Letter to the Editor:

Dear Agnes,

Your resignation as Editor of *The Spirit of '76*, tendered at our Norfolk Board Meeting, caught us by surprise. It was not a happy bit of news, and it was regretfully accepted. But then we reflect on what you have done for us, and for how long, and we say well done and Godspeed, and how blessed will be those who receive your attention in our stead.

Ten years ago, in your first issue of *The Spirit of '76* as Editor, you said you were "employing editorial rights to all entries". You have done it with care, intelligence, good judgment, understanding of the needs of the Society, and good Agnes sense. We are heavily in your debt for this labor of yours, and of the talent you brought to it. This publication is our principal means of communication with our membership, and as such, it is of vital importance to us. We will sorely miss your touch in its publication.

Thank you, Agnes, from the top, bottom and both sides of our hearts.



Allan M. Heyward, President-General

Allan



# SPRING MEETING MINUTES

## APRIL 5, 1997 — Norfolk, Virginia

The spring general meeting was called to order by President-General Allan M. Heyward at 9 AM followed by a prayer said by Chaplain-General Gabrielle Bielenstein.

Members attending their first meeting were: Emeling Driscoll descended from John Hart; William Manger, Jr. descended from Oliver Wolcott and Sherry M. Burke descended from John Witherspoon.

The minutes of the Previous meeting were read by Elizabeth N. Gottwald, Secretary-General. They were approved as read.

Treasurer-General William Ward reported our income to date in the General Fund was \$ 19,115. Our expenses to date have been \$17,762. The market value of the Scholarship Fund is \$173,045; Life Dues Fund \$106,453 and the Sustaining Fund \$5,903. All of these funds are growing. Complete report will be filed with the minutes. Mr. Ward noted the board approved adding to the Scholarship fund so we may award a total of \$11,000. He has blazer patches for \$25.00 and rosettes for \$6.00.

Ann Leadbetter, Registrar-General reported we have 18 New Members, one Reinstatement, 12 Transfers from Juniors, one Senior unlisted (Snesrud) and eight Deaths, giving us a total of 912 Senior Members. Prayer for the departed members was given by Chaplain-General Gabrielle Bielenstein. We have six new Junior members, 12 transferred to Senior membership giving us a total Junior membership of 138.

Reiman McNamara presented the report on our Investments:

Scholarship Fund value of principal (12/31/96) .....	\$171,810.33
Life Dues Fund .....	\$104,862.62
Sustaining Fund .....	\$5,660.29

Carter Worth reported on the future meeting in New York City on October 3,4 & 5. He reported that arrangements for this meeting are on schedule.

Richard H. Stromberg reported for the Scholarship Committee. We have had over 1,000 inquiries, with 21 students who have qualified. We issue 10 scholarships per year at \$ 1,000 each. Dorothy Kennedy's obituary requested memorial gifts be sent to the D.S.D.I. Scholarship Fund. There have been 22 donations, 20 from New Hampshire. The monetary gifts amount to about \$600.

Mr. Stromberg also gave the Genealogical Register Committee report. A contract has been signed, Volume 1 has been completed and delivered to the publisher, Volume 11 is expected to be complete and delivered by Christmas! We expect the first volume to be published in the fall of 1997.

**State Society Reports:**

*North Carolina*, no report, but Agnes Carstarphen requested a replacement be found to edit the *Spirit of '76*.

*Pennsylvania*, Barbara Kalbfleisch reported the July meeting dates, the 3rd to the 5th. We will be in the East wing of Independence Hall because the renovations in Long Hall are not complete.

*Virginia*, John McKean reported on May 18th the Virginia Society will visit Taylors Creek in Hanover County.

*Washington, DC*, Caroline Miller was introduced as the Governor-General of Washington, D.C.

Nominating Committee Report given by Reiman McNamara for the Chairman, Richard H. Corson, MD:

President-General .....	Allan M. Heyward
First Vice-President .....	Philip Schuyler Pyne
Second Vice President .....	F. Nelson Light
Chaplain-General .....	Mrs. Hans Bielenstein
Registrar-General .....	Mrs. Frederick E. Leadbetter
Assistant Registrar-General .....	Mrs. John C. Allnutt
Historian-General .....	Richard H. Stromberg
Assistant Historian-General .....	Mark C. Ward
Treasurer-General .....	William Ward, IV
Assistant Treasurer-General .....	Mrs. J. Bruce Hagan
Secretary-General .....	Mrs. W. Douglas Gottwald, Jr.
Assistant Secretary-General .....	Ms. Dorothy Lewis Grant
Chancellor-General .....	T. Michael Kennedy

**Old Business:**

Allan reported the Board voted to send all members a copy of the Declaration of Independence. We are purchasing a flat rather than folded or rolled copy and it will be mailed for a total cost of \$2.00 per copy.

**New Business:**

Allan reported The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has requested a donation to help pay for new microfilm readers. The board voted to give them \$2,000.


A resolution will be drawn up by Ed Finch commmerating Dorothy Kennedy's efforts on the Scholarship Committee. It will be presented to Mike Kennedy.

The Roll Call of the Signers read by: Richard Stromberg, General Meeting; Percy Hamilton Goodsell, Jr., Banquet —

	<u>General Meeting</u>	<u>Banquet</u>
Oliver Wolcott	2	2
William Floyd	1	
Philip Livingston	3	3
Francis Lewis	1	1
Lewis Morris	2	
John Witherspoon	3	3
Francis Hopkinson	3	
John Hart	4	4
Benjamin Franklin	1	1
John Morton	3	2
George Clymer	1	1
George Ross	1	
George Read	1	
Thomas Stone		
Richard Henry Lee	3	
Benjamin Harrison	1	1
Thomas Nelson, Jr.	6	6
Carter Braxton	9	9(10)
Thomas Heyward, Jr.	7	4

The prayer was said by Gabrielle Bielenstein and the meeting adjourned at 9:45 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted

  
Elizabeth N. Gottwald, Secretary-General

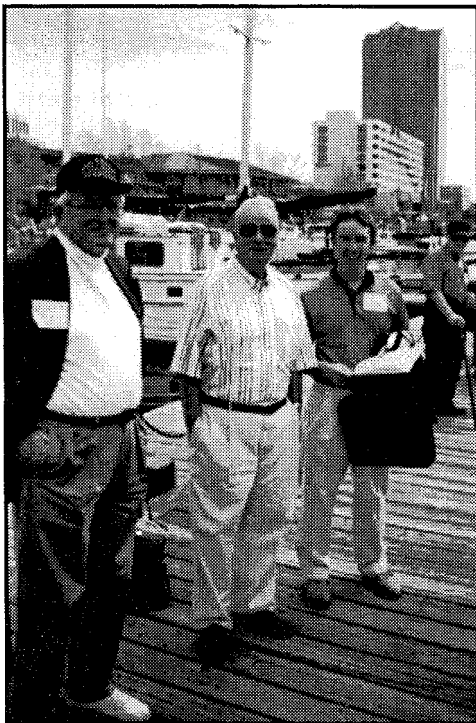


*D.S.D.I. boarding American Rover*



*President General on deck with friends*

# DSDI SPRING MEETING IN NORFOLK



*Reiman and Dan McNamera*



*Lee Page group*



*The Ladies*



*Bill Ward and the President-General*

# REGISTRAR'S REPORT — 4/4/97

## 18 NEW SENIOR MEMBERS

2478 LM Oliver Wilcott  
William Muir Manger, Jr.  
1540 44th St. NW, Washington, DC 20007

2456 John Hart  
Linda Waybright Lehmann (Mrs. Brent)  
3904 Eland Rd., Phoenix, MD 21131

2459 Richard Henry Lee  
Robert Peyton Gresham  
5916 Fergusson Rd., Richmond, VA 23226

2460 William Floyd  
Emily Summer Dill  
15 Mill Street, Lansing, NY 14882

2462 John Hart  
Gabriel Michael DiCianni  
2455 W. Bayshore Rd., Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

2463 Thomas Nelson, Jr.  
Christina Dabney Griffith (Mrs. John Lynn)  
P.O. Box 3212, Pinetop, AZ 85935

2464 Thomas Nelson, Jr.  
Nathaniel William Dabney  
2692 Shadow Valley Ranch Rd., Prescott, AZ 86301

2466 John Hart  
Susan Kay Landrum Wiley (Mrs. John Conrad)  
421 W. Bryn Mawr, Roselle, IL 60172

2467 William Williams  
Faith Gillinder McClennan  
582 Rt. 1679, Woodstock, CT 06281

2471 Arthur Middleton  
Middleton Pope Barrow, Jr.  
136 13th SE, Washintgon, DC 20003

2472 Roger Sherman  
Lois Jane Kinsey (Mrs. Hamilton)  
5937 Creekview Dr., Milford, OH 45150-1517

2473 Robert Morris  
Mary Park DeSalvo (Mrs. Richard Gray)  
350 Noxantown Rd., Middletown, DE 19707

2477 John Witherspoon  
Sherry Matlock Burke (Mrs. Philip G.)  
11933 Oak Highlands Dr., Dallas, TX 75243

2479 Arthur Middleton  
Alice Lowndes Lee Fraser (Mrs. Joseph Bacon)  
51 Myrtle Island Rd., Bluffton, SC 29910

2480 Arthur Middleton  
Elizabeth Middleton Fraser  
541 Myrtle Island Rd., Bluffton, SC 29910

2482 Richard Henry Lee  
Nancy Petyon Gresham (Mrs. Thomas Cary)  
5916 Fergusson Rd., Richmond, VA 23226

2483 Josiah Bartlett  
Thornton Calef Lockwood  
17 Duck Pond Rd., Demarest, NJ 07627

2484 Thomas Heyward, Jr.  
Ralston Everett Mingleдорff, Jr.  
305 Mariners Cove, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

## 11 CHANGES FROM JUNIOR TO SENIOR MEMBERS

2458 LM - (JR LM 821) Thomas Heyward, Jr.  
Edward Thomas Walker  
5910 Woodgreen Dr., San Antonio, TX 78218

2470 - (JR LM 864) Carter Braxton  
Laura Marshall Worth  
200 E. 66th St., New York, NY 10021-6728

2455 - (JR 1036) John Hart  
Kevin John Cunningham  
5417 Gladwright Dr., Centreville, VA 22030-3334

2457 - (JR 962) Thomas Heyward, Jr.  
Katherine Amory Owens  
230 Pine Cliff Dr., Valdosta, GA 31602

2465 - (JR 763) John Hart  
Glenn Forrest Slonecker  
95 Frenchtown Rd., Elkton, MD 21921-6585

2468 - (JR 934) Robert Morris  
James Markham Triplett  
1709 Macon St., McLean, VA 22101-5130

2474 - (JR 951) Arthur Middleton  
Katherine Campbell Ramsey  
100 Forrest Hills Dr., Bogart, GA 30622-2439

2475 - (JR 1050) Thomas Heyward, Jr.  
James Delbert Greenwood III  
712 Three Chopt Rd., Mankin Sabat, VA 23103

2476 - (JR836) Thomas Heyward, Jr.  
Danielle Christine DeGain  
7807 Pineview, Dr., Odessa, FL 33556-4122

2481 - (JR 834) Arthur Middleton  
Lars Romoren Hagen, Jr.  
111 NW 81st Way, Coral Springs, FL 33071-7526

2485 - (JR 1002) John Hart  
Noah Hart Domnick  
3824 W. Vista Ln., Stillwater, OK 74074

## 6 NEW JUNIOR MEMBERS

1051 LM Benjamin Harrison  
Harrison Hessian Grinnan  
19 Davie Circle, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

1052 LM Benjamin Harrison  
Richard Coles Edmunds, IV  
1401 Coventry Lane, Alexandria, VA 22304

1053 LM Benjamin Harrison  
Evelyn Grinnan Ruff  
201 Longwood Dr., Chapel Hil, NC 27514

1054 LM Benjamin Harrison  
William Grinnan Ruff  
201 Longwood Dr., Chapel Hill, NC 27514

1055 Thomas Nelson, Jr.  
Amanda Kay Nolan  
4 Brookside Trail, South Salem, NY 10590-2744

1056 John Hart  
Julie Michelle DiCianni  
1455 West Bayshore Rd., Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

## 4 NAMES CHANGES

2245 John Morton  
from: Kristina Kae Nelson to: Mrs. Kristina Nelson Davis

2246 Thomas Nelson, Jr.  
from: Teresa Kae Nelson to: Mrs. Tearsa Nelson Burke

2256 Thomas Heyward, Jr.  
from: Marilois Hitch Owens to: Mrs. Charels Lemuel Smith

2257 Thomas Hewyard, Jr.  
from: Elizabeth Heyward Owens to: Mrs. Charles Joseph Steedley

## 1 CHANGE TO LIFE MEMBER

2461 LM Samuel Adams  
Amy Elizabeth Snow  
8581 Glencairn Ln., Hialeah, FL 33016-1467

## 1 REINSTATEMENT

1326 Richard Henry Lee  
John Henry Bennett  
2018 Addison St., Philadelphia, PA 19146

## 8 DEATHS

1192 LM William Floyd  
Eleanor Disston Reynolds — date unknown

1277 Benjamin Harrison  
Benjamin Harrison Walker — 1/97

1307 LM John Hart  
Virginia Campell — 5/17/96

1886 LM Stephen Hopkins  
George Boyan Lomos — 9/21/96

2386 John Hart  
William Edward Fish — 9/26/96

1393 LM George Reed  
Sarah Sully Wickham (Mrs. Brodhead) — 1/3/97

1660 John Hart  
Anna Wilson Hall — 2/15/97

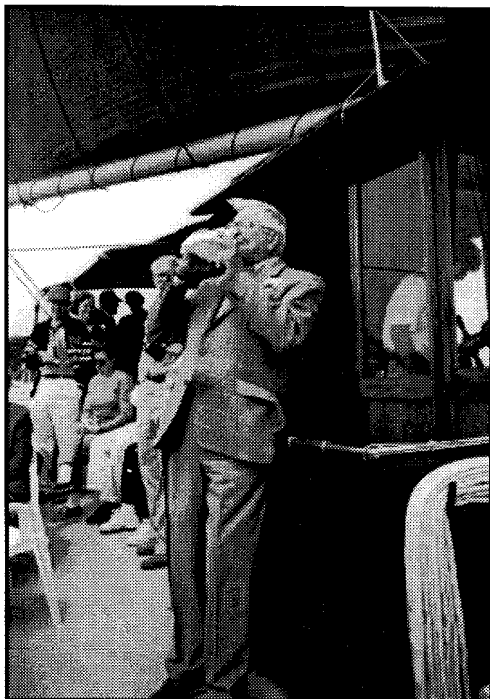
1666 LM Samuel Adams  
Dorothy Simmons Kennedy (Mrs. Phillip F.) 3/20/97

*May the souls of these members, and all others who have departed this life, rest in thy heavenly Kingdom, now and forever.*

# DSDI Spring Meeting In Norfolk

Norfolk, Virginia, was the site of the Spring Meeting, arranged by Dan McNamara, Immediate Past-President of the Virginia State Society. It was well attended—about 80 percent for one or more of the several functions of the weekend. The weather was great for a seaside event, and a congenial group of members and guests found it to be an interesting and pleasant outing.

Two events stood out as being what most will remember about the weekend. First was the kind invitation of our Chaplain-General, Gabrielle Bielenstein and her daughters Andrea and Danielle, for all in attendance to come to their residence in Portsmouth for refreshments and supper on Friday evening. This involved a fun trip across the Elizabeth River on the ferry, and a short walk narrated along the way through “Old Town” to the residence on gas-lit streets. Even the next door neighbor extended the courtesy of a house tour through his period home! Gracious hospitality, good food, and a rare setting made for a great evening. The other memorable event was the Saturday morning sail up the Elizabeth River on the chartered *American Rover*, a 135-foot, three-masted schooner. Refreshments and lunch added to the occasion, which included a narrated viewing of Norfolk and Portsmouth harbors, past the world’s largest naval base stocked with assorted warships from carriers to submarines, and on into Hampton Roads to see the setting of the famous sea battle between the Civil War ironclad, *Monitor* and *Merrimac*.



There was time afterward on Saturday afternoon for our group to pursue other attractions in Norfolk. Some went to the Chrysler Art Museum, others to the new national maritime center, *Nautilus*, or to the Douglas MacArthur Memorial, while still others rested up with TV basketball before the cocktail reception and banquet. Dinner featured “A Virginia Colonial Dinner”, which included peanut soup and Smithfield ham.

All of this took place at the Omni Hotel, with rooms on the seaside in downtown Norfolk. The Board of Governors had their meeting there on Friday afternoon, and the General Meeting of the Society was held there Saturday morning. When the roll call of the Signers was read, the head count of descendants was close, but Carter Braxton of Virginia edged out both Thomas Heyward, Jr. (SC) and Thomas Nelson Jr., (VA).

Sunday morning worship services were held at nearby St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, an ancient parish which has had the distinction locally of having the only visible scar remaining from the Revolution. Early on, the British fleet bombarded and set fire to Norfolk, and St. Paul’s Church has one of those cannon balls still imbedded in its outer wall!

Our thanks go to all of those who helped to make this an enjoyable meeting.

## Summary of Treasurers Report 1996–1997

Income – of General Fund – Dues, etc.  
Expenses – Operations of Society  
Fund Assets – Projects: 10% of Income  
                   Yearbook: 10% of Income  
                   Reserve Fund  
Scholarship – for Distribution  
 Scholarship fund – Market Value  
 Life Dues fund – Market Value  
 Sustaining Fund – Market Value

BUDGET	FALL	SPRING
17,800	12,025	19,115
17,800	6,089	17,762
1,780	8,450	6,698
1,780	11,848	6,623
	3,834	6,018
11,000	–0–	10,700
	155,546	173,045
	95,681	106,453
	5,027	5,903

Notes:

- (1) Income only from Scholarship Fund awarded each year.
- (2) Income only from Life Dues Fund transferred to General Fund.
- (3) Reserve Fund for special needs for the Society.



# Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence

## Officers, 1996-1997

President-General,  
ALLAN M. HEYWARD  
202 N. Mooreland Rd., Richmond, VA 23229-7102

First Vice-President,  
PHILIP SCHUYLER PYNE  
2508 Waterford Rd., Yardley, PA 19067

Second Vice-President,  
F NELSON LIGHT  
Westminster-Canterbury #1224, 3100 Shore Dr.,  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-1164

Chaplain-General  
MRS. HANS BIELENSTEIN  
21 Claremont Ave., New York, NY 10027-6828

Registrar-General,  
MRS. FREDERICK E. LEADBETTER  
101 Holly Ave., Chestertown, MD 21620

Assistant Registrar-General,  
MRS. J. BRUCE HAGAN  
449 Fletcher Rd., Wayne, PA 19087-2212

Historian-General,  
RICHARD H. STROMBERG  
609 Irving Ave., Deale, MD 20751

Assistant Historian-General,  
MARK C. WARD  
208 Dorset Rd., Devon, PA 19333

Treasurer-General,  
WILLIAM WARD, IV  
8 Kershaw Rd., Wallingford, PA 19086-6204

Assistant Treasurer-General,  
JOHN D. NELSON  
P.O. Box 43, Hanover, VA 23069

Secretary-General,  
MRS. W. DOUG GOTTWALD  
1986 Towhee Lane, Richmond, VA 23231

Assistant Secretary-General,  
MRS. DOROTHY LEWIS GRANT  
729 Goshen Rd., West Chester, PA 19380

General,  
J. MICHAEL KENNEDY  
5580 Pacific Blvd. #502, Boca Raton, FL 35433

## INCORPORATED

Founded July 4, 1907

Organized October 19, 1907

Incorporated April 26, 1949

"And for the Support of this Declaration,  
with a Firm Reliance on the Protection of  
Divine Providence, We Mutually Pledge to  
Each Other Our Lives, Our Fortunes, and  
Our Sacred Honor."

## Honorary Presidents-General

PERCY HAMILTON GOODSSELL, JR.  
Cheshire, CT

FRANKLIN BACHE SATTERTHWAITE  
New York, NY

R.H. CORSON, M.D.  
Batesville, MS

## Board of Governors, 1996-1998

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Mrs. Phillip F. Kennedy  
Pembroke

MASSACHUSETTS - Miss Ellen L. Brinker  
Wellesley

RHODE ISLAND - Mrs. James A. Harper  
New York City

CONNECTICUT - Mr. Truxton E. Brodhead  
Niantic

NEW YORK - Mr. Carter Braxton Worth  
New York City

NEW JERSEY - Mr. Edward Ridley Finch  
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PENNSYLVANIA - Mrs. Harry W. Staller  
Devon

DELAWARE - Mrs. John C. Allnut  
Rockville, MD

MARYLAND - Miss Ann Mason  
Rockville

VIRGINIA - Mr. Daniel H. McNamara  
Richmond

NORTH CAROLINA - Mrs. William H. Carstarphen, Jr.  
Greensboro

SOUTH CAROLINA - Mr. Thomas G. Heyward  
Bluffton

GEORGIA - Miss Elizabeth A. Corson, II  
Atlanta

WASHINGTON, DC - Mrs. Peter G. Miller  
Washington, DC

AT LARGE -

Mrs. David F. Cowan  
Orlando, FL

Miss Anna W. Hall  
Philadelphia, PA

Mrs. Robert M. Hawkridge  
West Chester, PA

Mrs. Wm. Kalbfleisch  
Philadelphia, PA

Mr. John R.O. McKean  
Williamsburg, VA

Mr. Daniel H. McNamara  
Richmond, VA

Mr. Kenan McNamara, Jr.  
Richmond, VA

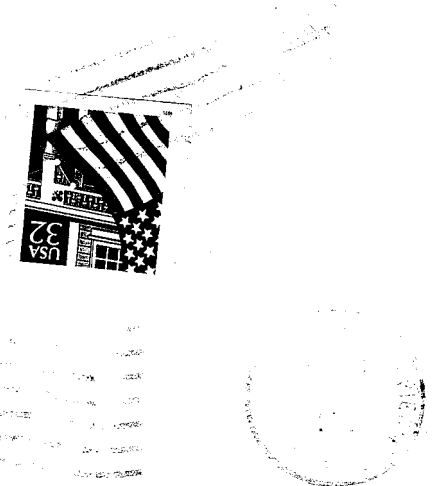
Ms. Connie H.T. Miller  
Washington, DC

The Rev. Frederick W. Pyne  
Frederick MD

Mr. Stephen V.R. Pyne  
Westminster, MD

Ms. Hazel B.B. Roche  
Manchester, NH

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Greensboro, NC 27408

J.S.E.