

Descendants of the Signers of the  
Declaration of Independence  
Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA  
May 12, 1989

The Annual meeting of the Board of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence was held at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the 12th day of May, 1989, at 4:10 p.m. Rieman McNamara, Jr., President-General, presided.

The Board meeting was held with the following present: Rieman McNamara, Jr., Philip Schuyler Pyne, Dorothy Kennedy, Stephen V.R. Pyne, Florence Mary Maupin, Richard H. Corson, M.D., Ruth March Hagan, William Ward, IV, Gabrielle Maupin Bielenstein, Elizabeth Trent Kratz, Constantia E. Allnutt, Elizabeth Lesse, Barbara M. Kalbfleisch and F. Nelson Light.

The Prayer of the Society was given by Richard H. Corson, M.D.

Minutes of the Spring meeting were approved as mailed to the Board.

Treasurer's report, made by William Ward, IV, Treasurer-General, was accepted and approved for 1988-89, and the budget for 1989-90 was approved.

Registrar-General, Ruth March Hagan, presented her report and four new members and one new Junior life member were approved.

First Vice-President, Barbara M. Kalbfleisch, reported the dates and places for the next two meetings as listed on the program.

Gabrielle Maupin Bielenstein reported on the contacts with the Descendants of the Signers of the Constitution on the bicentennial celebration of the Constitution.

The following committees reported:

Philip Pyne reported for Fred Pyne on the Scholarship Committee.

Gabrielle Maupin Bielenstein reported for the Project Committee that Lain Hawkrige hadn't reported but was expected at the meeting. Therefore, there was no report for the projects.

Philip Pyne reported for the Young Descendants.

Stephen Pyne reported for the Publicity Committee and suggested a blazer patch be designed for the Society and \$50.00 was appropriated for a prototype to be presented at the next meeting. The Publicity Committee was also authorized to assist in publicizing by pamphlet the portrait of the Signers hanging in the Second Bank of the United States.

It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the Southeast States Society as a Regional State Society of South Carolina and to issue their charter, based upon a petition signed by more than the required 15 members.

It was reported that the present owners of Signer Thomas McKean's residence and birthplace are putting the estate up for sale in order to distribute the estate, and that Grace Staller could assist any interested descendants with details of the sale.

An amendment to Article V, Section 4, of the Constitution was presented to the Board as follows: "Section 4. Members two years in arrears for dues shall be dropped from the roll of membership of the Society upon one month's special notice unless otherwise commuted, but may be reinstated by the Board of Governors upon payment of the said two years due in arrears, and dues for the current year."

The amendment has been submitted to Edward R. Finch, Jr., Chancellor-General, who had not replied at the time of the Board meeting. On motion made and passed, the amendment was approved by the Board and will be submitted to the membership at the Fall meeting of the Society with the required 30 day notice to appear in the "Spirit of 76".

It was moved, seconded and passed that \$2,000.00 from the Reserve Fund be appropriated to computerize membership records.

Dorothy Kennedy reported that she has in her possession 200 copies of the Declaration of Independence received from the Estate of C. B. Axford.

REPORTS OF THE STATE SOCIETIES:

Barbara Kalfleisch reported for the Pennsylvania Society.

Gabrielle Bielenstein reported for the New York Society.

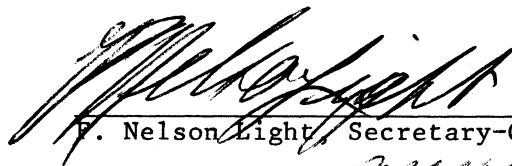
Philip Strong reported for the New Jersey Society.

Connie Allnutt reported for the Maryland Society.

Rieman McNamara reported for the Virginia Society.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m. and was followed by a reception at the Spectacles Room of the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel hosted by the Pennsylvania Society.

Respectfully submitted,



F. Nelson Light, Secretary-General

Approved  
11/21/89  
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Descendants of the Signers of the  
Declaration of Independence  
General Meeting, Philadelphia, PA  
May 13, 1989

A general meeting of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence was held in the Long Room, Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 13, 1989, at 6:35 p.m. President-General, Rieman McNamara, Jr., presided.

Opening prayer was given by the Secretary-General, F. Nelson Light, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by President-General, Rieman McNamara, Jr.

Introduction was made of the following new members attending their first meeting: John W. Card, III, Jennifer Card and Harlan W. Lavin, Jr.

The minutes of the Charleston, South Carolina meeting was read and approved.

President-General, Rieman McNamara, Jr., reported on the previous night's Board of Governors meeting.

The following officers reported:

First Vice-President Barbara Kalbfleisch made her report.

Gabrielle Maupin Bielenstein again made her report concerning the Signers of the Constitution.

Treasurer-General William Ward, IV reported on finances at fiscal year-end, April 30.

Registrar-General, Ruth March Hagan, gave her report on membership.

Gabrielle Maupin Bielenstein reported also for the Projects Committee as to the status of the Leach papers project.

STATE SOCIETIES REPORTING:

Grace Staller reported for the Pennsylvania Society and also advised that the home of Signer McKean was for sale, and that she could assist anyone interested in knowing more details.

Gabrielle Maupin Bielenstein reported for the New York Society.

Connie Allnutt reported for the Maryland Society and on their recent meeting and elections.

Rieman McNamara reported for the Virginia Society and that state officers had been re-elected at a recent meeting in Richmond. He also reported for the New Jersey Society.

Florence Mary Maupin reported for the Washington, D.C. Society.

Dorothy Kennedy reported for the New Hampshire Society.

President-General, Rieman McNamara, Jr., advised that the Board accepted the petition to form a state society by more than the required 15 members, arising from the interest shown at the recent Charleston, SC meeting, but which requested the designation "Southeastern States Society" inasmuch as membership would have to include residents of several regional states. Mr. Thomas G. Heyward had been elected President of the new Society.

President-General, Rieman McNamara, Jr., gave his report on the state of the Society and reported the death of one of our earliest members, Gabrielle O'Connor, Number 49, who was at least in her late nineties, and the death of Clinton Burgess Axford.

The following resolution was moved, seconded and passed: RESOLVED, that the Annual Congress of the DSDI, Inc. recognize the many contributions of Gabrielle O'Connor and Clinton Burgess Axford to the Society and expresses its sorrow in their passing.

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers:

President-General	Rieman McNamara, Jr.
First Vice-President	Mrs. William G. Kalbfleisch
Second Vice-President	Mrs. Hans Bielenstein
Chaplain-General	The Rev. Herbert N. Tucker, Jr.
Registrar-General	Mrs. Bruce Hagan
Assistant Registrar-General	Mrs. Charles Kratz
Historian-General	Philip Schuyler Pyne
Assistant Historian-General	Mark C. Ward
Treasurer-General	William Ward, IV
Assistant Treasurer-General	William Baldwin Abert
Secretary-General	F. Nelson Light
Assistant Secretary-General	Miss Nina Hill Hopkins
Chancellor-General	Edward Ridley Finch

There being no further nominations, it was moved, seconded and passed that a unanimous vote be cast for the slate. Nominating Committee for next year was nominated by the President-General: Dorothy Kennedy, Chairman, Connie Allnutt and Agnes Carstarphen. There being no further nominations for the Nominating Committee, it was moved, seconded and passed that a unanimous ballott be cast for their election.

Philip Pyne read the Declaration of Independence. Mark Ward led the roll call of the signers with the following descendants present:

Samuel Adams . . . . .	1
William Ellery . . . . .	2
William Floyd . . . . .	1
John Hart . . . . .	10
Benjamin Franklin . . . . .	4
John Morton . . . . .	2
Thomas Stone . . . . .	1
Benjamin Harrison . . . . .	1
Thomas Nelson, Jr. . . . .	1
Carter Braxton . . . . .	2
Thomas Heyward, Jr. . . . .	1

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m. with benediction by the Rev. Charles Kratz. Prior to the meeting, a walking tour was conducted of the Philadelphia Open House area, partially guided and partially on our own, beginning at the Curtis Center and including the following places: Athenaeum, Independence Place, Hopkinson House, and 228 West Washington Square. The meeting was

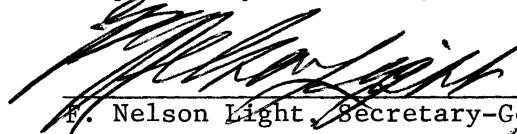
followed by a banquet at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel. Immediately following the adjournment, the new officers selected the following Governors:

New Hampshire - Mrs. Kenneth Sherman Peterson, Bedford  
Massachusetts - Miss Marianne M. Brinker, Wellesley  
Rhode Island - Mrs. James A. Harper, New York City  
Connecticut - Mr. John H. Works, Jr., Brookfield  
New York - Ms. Carola Collier, New York City  
New Jersey - Philip Livingston Strong, Cranbury  
Pennsylvania - Mrs. Harry W. Staller, Devon  
Delaware - Mr. Richard Rodney Cooch, New Castle  
Maryland - Mrs. John C. Allnut, Rockville  
Virginia - Mr. Francis D. Irving, IV, Richmond  
North Carolina - Mrs. William H. Carstarphen, Greensboro  
South Carolina - Thomas G. Heyward, Bluffton  
Georgia - Richard Howell Corson, M.D., Miami, FL  
Washington, DC - Miss Florence Mary Maupin, Washington, DC

AT LARGE:

Miss Virginia E. Campbell, Fort Washington, MD  
Mrs. Craig McDonald Coley, Annapolis, MD  
Mrs. David F. Cowan, Jacksonville, FL  
Mrs. Robert M. Hawkridge, West Chester, PA  
John D. Nelson, Hanover, VA  
Frederick Wallace Pyne, Frederick, MD  
Mrs. Barbara Brooks Walker, Boston, MA  
Allan M. Heyward, Richmond, VA  
Stephen V.R. Pyne, Westminster, MD  
Mrs. Gerald Lesse, Philadelphia, PA  
Anne Hall, Philadelphia, PA

Respectfully submitted,

  
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John D. Nelson Light, Secretary-General

*approved  
6 Oct 89*