

Descendants of the Signers of the
Declaration of Independence
Fall Board Meeting
Saratoga Springs, NY
October 5, 1990

The Fall Board Meeting of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence was called to order by President-General Mrs. Barbara Kalbfleisch at 4 p.m. on Friday, October 5, 1990, at The Gideon Putnam Hotel, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Those present for the board meeting were: Barbara M. Kalbfleisch, Gabrielle M. Bielenstein, John Nelson, Herbert N. Tucker, Jr., Ellen Brinker, Thomas Hayward, Agnes Carstarphen, Fred W. Pyne, Philip S. Pyne, Stephen V. R. Pyne, Elizabeth Gottwald, Anna W. Hall, Philip L. Strong, Nina H. Hopkins, Dorothy S. Kennedy, Elizabeth Kratz, Dr. Richard H. Corson.

Chaplain-General Herbert N. Tucker, Jr., gave the devotion and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Minutes of the last board meeting in Philadelphia, Pa. were approved as mailed to the Board.

Reports of the Officers

Richard H. Corson, M.D., in the absence of the Treasurer-General, reported on the General Fund of the Society. Currently a little more than half of our budgeted source of income has been received to date. The yearly budget for revenues in this fund is \$13,000. Expenses are on target with expenditures running about \$3,500 thus far. The Scholarship Fund has in excess of \$123,000 in Principal. The Life Dues Fund has over \$41,000 and interest from this fund will be added to the General Fund. The Project Fund has a balance of \$6,300 and the Society's Reserve Fund totals \$8,700. There is approximately \$2,000 in delinquent dues at this time. Delinquent dues constitute three months in overdue payments and all delinquent members have received notice of payment due. The Treasurer's report was approved as reported.

In the absence of the Registrar-General, Dorothy Kennedy read the Registrar's report. The Society received 16 new members, had 2 reinstatements, and 3 resignations. There were 5 deaths. This brings a total of 800 senior members as of October 5, 1990. The junior membership stands at 116 as of the same date. Life member #1184, Arthur Howell Gerhard, Jr., of Hilton Head, S.C., passed away subsequent to the completion of this report. Therefore, his name is not included in the above figures.

President-General Barbara Kalbfleisch said our new yearbooks for 1990 are in final print and due to be mailed within the next three weeks.

Stephen V. R. Pyne displayed the new D.S.D.I. blazer crests which are ready for purchase. The cost is \$25 each. Checks should be made payable to D.S.D.I. Discussion followed as to how many crests would be ordered at one time. The Society wants to save money ordering in bulk, but not to the point of having an excess on hand. The cost basis for the crests to the Society is \$20.00 plus a small mailing charge. It was moved by Richard H. Corson, M.D. and seconded by Dorothy Kennedy that we postpone further discussion on this until the next meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Fred Pyne, Chairman, reported for the Scholarship Committee. Applications ^{REQUEST FROM PROGEN DESCENDANTS} for prospective scholarship recipients are due by ~~May 15~~ ^{MARCH}. There were 6 awards disbursed this year. The committee under Mr. Pyne's leadership has revamped the parameters for determining awards. The weighted percentages for making awards are now 70% merit, 20% need, and 10% end degree and date. The entire board approved Mr. Pyne's report.

Stephen Pyne, Member-At-Large, requested that whoever is hosting various society meetings to send notification to the local newspapers. D.S.D.I. would have increased exposure through this publicity. Furthermore, Mr. Pyne requested he be notified as well of any publicity in the media.

Historian-General Philip S. Pyne spoke of efforts to increase active membership of young Descendants. Mr. Pyne wants to work within the Society by utilizing the "Spirit of 76." All members of D.S.D.I. should be conscious to let the community know who we are, particularly those members who are affiliated with other historical organizations (i.e., volunteers or docents at national monuments). Dorothy Kennedy agreed that we should spread the word of our organization with other historical societies.

State Society Reports

The newly-formed Southeastern States Society met September 15, 1990 in Greensboro, N.C. Agnes Carstarphen was elected the first president and Horace McCormick was elected vice-president. Agnes moved that the Board of D.S.D.I. accept the By-Laws of the Southeast States Society. The Board approved unanimously. The next meeting of the Southeastern States Society will be on Saturday, March 23, 1991 in Savanna, Georgia at the Mulberry Inn.

Old Business

Second Vice-President Gabrielle Bielenstein gave her report on the Leach project which is not being completed in a timely manner. Problems and delays have caused the work to fall way behind in schedule and editor, Lain Hawkrige, did not have a report available for the board meeting. First Vice-President Dr. Richard Corson wrote Mr. Hawkrige a letter on September 4, 1990, outlining various questions he wanted answered but no response has been obtained by the Fall meeting in Saratoga Springs. Dr. Corson moved that the President-General write Mr. Hawkrige requesting an answer to the above letter as soon as possible. Herbert N. Tucker, Jr., seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

New Business

Member-At-Large, Mrs. David F. Cowan, sent a letter to the President-General concerning the possible sale of the John Witherspoon house in Princeton, N.J. Mrs. Cowan does not want the house sold because of its historical nature. It was moved and seconded that Mrs. Kalbfleisch write the Mayor of Princeton on behalf of D.S.D.I. requesting the house be kept historical.

Mrs. Kalbfleisch discussed the Society's current status of our headquarters at the Historical Society of Philadelphia at 1300 Locust Street. She has received a letter from the Historical Society addressing several areas: storage of files, rent, and whether our files should be open for the public's review. Mrs. Kalbfleisch, along with Miss Anna Hall, condensed the three file cabinets into one cabinet. It was moved and seconded that the society not open its files to the public as we have never done so in the past. Dr. Corson moved that Mrs. Kalbfleisch negotiate with the historical society concerning our rent.

Agnes Castarphen read the dates of D.S.D.I.'s spring meeting in 1992, which will be in Edenton, N.C., March 27, 28 & 29. The Lord Proprietor's Inn wants a \$700 advance deposit to hold 20 rooms (\$80 double, \$53 single). Mrs. Castarphen requested permission for the Treasurer-General to pay the deposit. This was approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nina H. Hopkins
Assistant Secretary-General

Descendants of the Signers of the
Declaration of Independence
Fall General Meeting
Saratoga Springs, NY
October 6, 1990

The Fall general meeting of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence was called to order by President-General, Barbara Kalbfleisch at 3:05 p.m. on October 6, 1990 at the Gideon Putnam Hotel, Saratoga Springs, New York.

The meeting was opened with the prayer of the Society, read by Chaplain-General Herbert N. Tucker, Jr. He then led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Although there were no new members attending their first meeting, Mrs. Kalbfleisch asked two new board members to rise and be recognized: Betsy Gottwald, Governor of Virginia, and Ellen Brinker, Governor of Massachusetts.

Minutes of the Annual Congress held on Saturday, June 2, 1990 were accepted.

Reports of The Officers

In the absence of Treasurer-General William Ward, First Vice President Dr. Richard ^H ~~M~~ Corson gave a very brief overview of the Society's General Fund. It was stated that to date \$3,500 has been spent for general expenses in running the Society, well within the total of \$13,000 budgeted for yearly expenditures in this fund. Dr. Corson also announced that there is roughly \$2,000 still outstanding in delinquent dues. This will be addressed by Treasurer-General William Ward and Assistant Treasurer-General Marianne Brinker.

Former President-General and current Governor of New Hampshire, Dorothy Kennedy, summarized the Registrar's report prepared by Registrar-General Ruth Hagan. The Society received 16 new members, had 2 reinstatements, 3 resignations, and there were five deaths. This brings a total of 800 senior members as of October 5, 1990. The junior membership stands at 116 members as of the same date.

Second Vice-President Gabrielle Bielenstein announced that Chancellor-General Edward Ridley Finch is now head of the New York State Society.

Stephen V. R. Pyne, member-at-large, reported on the blazer crests that are ready for purchase by all members. He displayed the beautiful crests and stated that they are being sold for \$25.00 each and to make requests for the crests directly to him.

President's Report

Mrs. Kalbfleisch reported that the 1990 yearbook is being finished and should be mailed within the next two weeks. She has received a copy from the printer for proofreading.

Mrs. Kalbfleisch also discussed the current status of the Leach project. There are some problems that have developed in completing the project and the President-General is going to be in correspondence with the editor, Lain Hawkrigde, to try to rectify the situation.

It has been brought to the attention of the Society by member-at-large, Mrs. David F. Cowan, that the John Witherspoon home in Princeton, New Jersey has been put up for sale. The members of the Society had an opportunity to see the home and grounds at the Fall general meeting of D.S.D.L in October 1988. While the house has currently been taken off the market, there is still much in question as to whether it will indeed be sold or kept for historical value. Mrs. Kalbfleisch will write the mayor of Princeton requesting the house not be sold due to its historical nature.

Committee Reports

Fred Pyne, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, announced there were 6 scholarship recipients in 1990 with scholarships ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,000. The fund has in excess of \$123,000 with a yearly income of over \$10,000 available for disbursement.

New Business

Former President-Generals were honored in Philadelphia during the Annual Congress in June. Mrs. Kalbfleisch requested those past President-Generals present at this meeting in Saratoga Springs to rise and be recognized: Percy Goodsell, Dorothy Kennedy, and Fred Pyne.

Fred Pyne reported on the upcoming Spring meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, April 5, 6, 7, 1991. Headquarters will be held at the Peabody Court Hotel near Washington Monument Square. The hotel rate will be \$90.00 for a double room including continental breakfast. The tour on Saturday, April 6, will include a tour of the home of Charles Carroll of Carrollton.

Historian-General Philip S. Pyne prepared a slide presentation of sixteen Signers of the Declaration. Members attending the meeting were able to see pictures of their Signer with a short narrative following each one.

Stephen V. R. Pyne ended the general meeting by calling the roll of the Society. The following members rose to be recognized. At the banquet, the following members rose for roll call.

<u>General Meeting</u>	<u>Banquet</u>
Samuel Adams - 1	1
Oliver Wolcott - 5	1
William Floyd - 3	2
Philip Livingston - 1	1
John Hart - 4	6
Benjamin Franklin	1
George Ross - 1	1
Richard Henry Lee - 1	1
Benjamin Harrison - 1	1
Thomas Nelson, Jr. - 3	4
Carter Braxton - 2	1
Thomas Hayward, Jr. - 1	1

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nina Hill Hopkins
Assistant Secretary-General