

DESCENDANTS OF THE SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Online Virtual Board Meeting- October 23, 2020

The Board Meeting of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence was held on Friday, October 23, 2020 via ZOOM online meeting. Lucy Tonacci, President-General of the Society called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. The meeting started with the prayer by Reverend Daphne Hawkes followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Due to the nature of the virtual meeting an image of the American flag was used.

Present: (22) Lucy Tonacci, Marianne Brinker, Nancy Wark, Shelley Cruz, Johnny Alexander, James Alexander, Wendy Davis-Bushey, Sally Fridy, Leroy Keller, Rev. Daphne Hawkes, Elizabeth Urstadt, Connie Wahlig, Ellen Brinker, Madelyn Sturgeon, Elaine Livingston, Melvin Livingston, Laura Belman, Gene Mayhew, Lawrence Croft, Jill Haines, Shirley Smith, Hunter George.

Minutes: Minutes of the June 26,2020 were approved unanimously.

Leroy Keller moved that since there were no minutes for the July 1, 2020 meeting, that the minutes of this meeting reflect that the officers nominated by the BOG on June 26, 2020, were approved at the July 1, 2020, general membership meeting by a unanimous vote. This motion passed unanimously.

VP1 Report/ Future Meetings: Marianne Brinker reported plans are being made for the July 4, 2021 meeting in Philadelphia. The Fall 2021 DSDI meeting will be held in Vincennes, Indiana on the weekend of October 8,9,10 2021.

Nancy Wark reported that the Spring meeting will be held in Princeton, New Jersey April 16-18, 2021

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Madelyn Sturgeon reported that the Spring 2022 meeting is being planned to take place in Southern Maryland. It will be considered a “destination” meeting.

VP2 Report/Nancy Wark: Nancy reported that she would like to collect pictures of the homes of all the signers. She also reported that she has made attempts to locate a DSDI “Tankard” but has been unsuccessful. She has found a list of all the recipients of the patriots’ bowl. She is looking for pictures of all the recipients.

Treasurer’s Report: (see attached) October 4 report. Johnny Alexander reviewed the profit and loss statement. Total current assets as of September 30, 2020 was reported at \$1,613,181.

Investment Report: Weston Croft was not present at this meeting but had submitted a DSDI interim investment report as of September 30, 2020. Specific fund values on September 30 were:

- Sustaining \$326,925
- Life Dues \$721,221
- Scholarship \$533,383

Scholarship Report : Jill Haimes reported that there were no major issues with the scholarship program for the academic year 2020-2021. The scholarship amounts were \$209,213 from the James Mitchell Trust and \$21,400 from DSDI. The average award was \$3,342.00. A total of 56 scholarships were awarded.

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Webmaster's Report: Jim Alexander reported that the current website code is based on a free product WordPress. The member data base, on the website server is also kept on the Registrar General's desktop. The website is being used as a means of communication with the membership including scholarship information and a repository for recent Spirits of 76, and minutes of the general meetings.

Registrar's Report:

DSDI Registrar-General's Report

October Meeting

Oct, 2020

17 New Senior Members

3664	Timothy Stephen Gittinger 529 NE 12 th Court Gainseville, FL 32601-3610	John Hart - 11
3665	Marty G. Liesegang 60599 Rays Way St. Helens, OR 97051-3403	John Hart - 9
3666	Spencer Randolph Davis 4936 Victor St Dallas, TX 75214-5435	Lewis Morris - 10
3667	Marcy Kay Leisegang-Handsaker 10451 SE 97 th Ct Happy Valley, OR	John Hart - 9

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3668LM	Ryane Livingston Farrell* 27 Hawthorne Rd Windham, NH 03087-1562	Philip Livingston - 10
3669	Ryan Christopher Ward 905 SW 8 th Ct. Grimes, IA 50111-2337	John Hart - 10
3670LM	Susan Ellen Myers Burbage 1128 Pipestem Pl Potomac, MD 20854-5512	Arthur Middleton - 6
3671LM	Tyler Aiden McClintock* 242 Derby St SE Albany, OR 97322-5983	John Witherspoon - 9
3672	Connie Louise Mogg PO Box 307 Hamilton, MO 64644-0307	John Hart - 10
3673	Jacqueline Durwen Thacher* 10208 Wendover Dr Vienna, VA 22181-2960	Roger Sherman - 8
3674	Lane Roberts Herbert* 8601 CR 134 Celina, TX 75009-2493	Benjamin Harrison, V - 9
3675	Lauren Kay Sperry* 4650 Bow Mar Dr	John Morton - 10

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Littleton, CO 80123-1405

- | | | |
|--------|--|-------------------------|
| 3676 | Henry Levent Uz*
2256 N. Upton St
Arlington, VA 22207-4045 | Richard Henry Lee -9 |
| 3677LM | Russell Williams Twiss
935 Starboard Dr.
Vero Beach, FL 32963-2912 | Carter Braxton - 9 |
| 3678LM | Christopher John Thomas
12 Cameo Ln
Fredericksburg, VA 22405-2795 | William Paca - 7 |
| 3679 | Justin Guerard Heyward
310 Linkside Lake Dr
Richmond Hill, GA 31324-1196 | Thomas Heyward, Jr. - 8 |
| 3680 | Phillip Abert Brown
26 Independence Ln
Mills River, NC 287859-4550 | Benjamin Franklin - 9 |

* Junior Upgrade

These candidates have met the genealogical requirements for membership into our Society. I move that we accept their applications for Junior Membership in the Society.

3 New Junior Member

- | | | |
|-------|---|----------------|
| J1612 | Alexander David Elliot
1988 Austin Dr
Novi, MI 48377-1904 | John Hart - 10 |
| J1613 | Gabriel Joseph Walker
721 Old Dairy Rd | John Hart - 10 |

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Wake Forest, NC 2757-4501

J1614 Valtero Leo Serra di Cassano

George Clymer - 9

Honegg Straße 5

Saanenmöser, 3777 Saanen, Switzerland

These candidates have met the genealogical requirements for membership into our Society. I move that we accept their applications for Junior Membership in the Society.

3 Upgrades to Life Membership

#	Name	Signer	Date
2777	Mary Palmer Quarles	Josiah Bartlett	6 Aug 2020
2778	Carolyn Quarles Burdette	Josiah Bartlett	6 Aug 2020
2987	Stephanie Quarles Hale	Josiah Bartlett	6 Aug 2020

7 Reinstatements

#	Name	Signer	Date
2694LM	John Russell Graham	George Taylor	20 Jul 2020
2357LM	Michelle H. White	John Hart	30 Jul 2020
3385	Tim Casten, Jr.	John Hart	6 Aug 2020
2777	Mary Palmer Quarles	Josiah Bartlett	6 Aug 2020
2778	Carolyn Quarles Burdette	Josiah Bartlett	6 Aug 2020
2987	Stephanie Quarles Hale	Josiah Bartlett	6 Aug 2020
1713	John Addison Thomas	William Paca	8 Sep 2020

9 Senior Members Made inactive - we do not have an email or phone number and cannot contact them. The Princeton mailer, the Philadelphia mailer or The Spirit were returned marked, "undeliverable".

#	Name	Signer
2301	Emery Livingston Flannery	Philip Livingston
1971	Cynthia Groos	George Read

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2568LM	Karen Ann Walsh	Matthew Thornton
2695LM	Josephine Knaub	John Hart
2102LM	Sarah B. Grinnan	Benjamin Harrison V
2601	Donna DeGain	Thomas Heyward, Jr.
3253 LM	Christine Michal Heyward	Thomas Heyward, Jr.
3252LM	James Robert Heyward, Jr.	Thomas Heyward, Jr.
1621LM	Elizabeth Wight Edmunds	Benjamin Harrison V

We do not have phone numbers or emails for these members and cannot contact them

3 Deaths reported this period;

#	Name	Date	Signer
1819	Bea Beck	29 Jun 2020	John Witherspoon
1597	John D. Nelson	29 Jun 2020	Thomas Nelson, Jr.
1029	Elizabeth Megill Evans	30 Jul 2020	John Hart

(Prayer to be read at the General meeting, only, per the by-laws)

Remember these thy servants, O Lord, according to thy gracious mercy, and having opened to them the gates of larger life, grant them an increase in knowledge and love of thee, that they may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. Amen

New Senior Member Applications by Signer:

Carter Braxton	1	Arthur Middleton	1
Benjamin Franklin	1	Lewis Morris	1
Benjamin Harrison, V	1	John Morton	1
John Hart	5	William Paca	1
Thomas Heyward, Jr.	1	Roger Sherman	1
Philip Livingston	1	John Witherspoon	1
Richard Henry Lee	1		

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Seniors		Juniors
1208	Total Active Membership, Last Report	188
16	New Members (does not include Junior upgrades)	3
0	New Supplements (does not increase # of Members)	0
3	Junior Transfer to Senior	- 2
-9	Resignation/Drop or non-transferring Juniors	-
--5	Converted to Inactive	
7	Reinstatement	0
-3	Deaths	
9	Total Net Added this Report	1
	Spousal/Honorary	
1217	Total Membership, This Report	189

Total Life Members as of this report: Seniors =808, Juniors = 47, Total = 855 .

Respectfully Submitted,



Jim Alexander

Registrar-General, DSDI

Spirit Report: Hunter George reported that he needs new content for the next issue of the Spirit by December 1. He is requesting submissions of pictures as well as content.

Wives Report: Shirley Smith reported that she has 18 volunteers working on biographies of the signers' wives. The goal is to have 2 biographies in each edition of the Spirit. Shirley welcomes more volunteers.

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Merchandise Report: Nancy Wark reported that the most popular item is the brand new ornament. All order forms are fillable on the DSDI1776.com website. The polo shirt is no longer available due to price. Items for sale include: ties, scarves, lapel pins, Jefferson bowls, note cards, magnetic name tags and ornaments.

State Governor Report: Andy Keller asked if any of the governors are elected by the state society. He also asked if any of the states have bylaws. If the states are not electing governors bylaws may not be needed. Andy was able to find bylaws for the Virginia Society.

Old Business Lucy reported that there will be a need for by-laws changes. Bruce Laubach was not present to discuss.

New Business: Historian Andy Keller advised that he will be speaking at the General meeting on Saturday October 24. Jim Alexander asked for up to \$6000.00 to have the membership section of the website automated. Jim made a motion to request from the board the amount of up to \$6000.00 to automate the membership section of the website. Jill Haimes seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Jim explained that the membership would be searchable. The last time the yearbook was published the cost was \$6,000.00. There is \$12,000 available that could be used to have a hard copy every 5 years or automate the membership directory. Motion passed by majority.

Additional jobs: Lucy Tonacci spoke about a proposed project in teaching students about our history as a zoom meeting.. Sandy Stromberg has been working on this. Anyone interested in working on this project should contact Lucy. Send email to president@dsdi1776.com

Proposed gifts from DSDI: Lucy Tonacci suggested an increased gift for the Virginia Museum of History and Culture. Jim Alexander made a motion to increase the contribution from \$250 to \$560.00 starting this

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year and continuing each year at \$560.00. Motion by Jim Alexander and seconded by Sally Fridy. Discussion followed. Motion passed unanimously.

Gift for Carpenters Hall, Philadelphia: Lucy received a request for monies from DSDI for renovations of the hall. The building has direct ties to Independence Hall. A discussion followed. Jim Alexander commented that he did not think we should make a donation. Hope Wood proposed and Marianne Brinker seconded that we donate \$560 to Carpenters' Hall as a one time donation this year. The motion passed.

Project Fund Expenses: Lucy Tonacci made a motion seconded by Daphne Hawkes that \$5000 be added to project fund expenses 7021. The total would be \$15,000.00 to take place May 1, 2021. Discussion followed. Motion passed 16 in favor and 2 against.

Bookkeeping: Johnny Alexander reported that he was tasked to find options for outsourcing bookkeeping. He received a quote of monthly fees for \$650.00 from Wells Coleman.

Motion to adjourn at 5:47 pm by Laura Belman and seconded by Nancy Wark. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Cruz Assistant Secretary of DSDI

November 11, 2020

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