

Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence
Annual Board Meeting
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
June 3, 1994

The annual board meeting of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence was called to order by President-General Richard Corson at 3:15 p.m. on Friday, June 3, 1994, in the small dining room of the Omni Hotel, Philadelphia, PA.

Those present for the board meeting were Constantia W. Allnut, Gabrielle M. Bielenstein, Richard H. Corson, Ruth M. Hagan, Anna W. Hall, Mai D. Harper, Allan M. Heyward, Barbara M. Kalbfleisch, Dorothy Kennedy, F. Nelson Light, Florence Mary Maupin, John D. Nelson, Grace K. Staller, Philip L. Strong, William Ward IV, and Herbert N. Tucker Jr.

The meeting was opened with the prayer of the Society by The Rev. Herb Tucker. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President-General Dick Corson.

Previous minutes provided to the Board by Secretary-General F. Nelson Light were approved as circulated.

Reports of the Officers

The treasurer's report, presented by Bill Ward, was accepted. The proposed budget is \$15,400, and \$9000 is available to award as scholarship this year.

Registrar-General Ruth Hagan reported 9 new senior members accepted, 3 new junior members, and 3 deaths, bringing membership to 889 senior members and 130 junior members. The Rev. Herb Tucker then read the prayer for departed members.

Committee Reports

Grace Staller reviewed the **current weekend activities**, including a bus tour on Saturday to see Pearl S. Buck's home, lunch at Plumstead Inn, and the tile works. Anna Hall mentioned a "first Friday" organ recital at Christ Church and several museums which could be attended on one's own. Grace announced that the banquet would be in the Omni's small dining room.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Dorothy Kennedy reported that the 1994 scholarship applications (22 received, 17 complete) are still being evaluated (Fred Pyne and Nicky Dillon are continuing to receive requests). Included in the applications were 20 applications for DSDI membership (7 of which became members) and 3 transfers from junior to senior membership. A motion that the Executive Committee be authorized to empower the Scholarship Committee as to the distribution of the 1994 scholarship funds was seconded and carried.

Dick Corson discussed the **Leach Papers** project and posed the question to the membership concerning a long-term genealogical study. Concerning publication, our chancellor reported that we have no copyright protection since we basically are copying; Leach is a "compendium" of the Signers.

Reports of State Societies

Connie Allnut reported that the **Maryland** society (Anne Mason, president) is active and held a spring meeting in Annapolis.

Dorothy Kennedy announced details concerning the Society's fall meeting scheduled for October 7-9 in Manchester, **New Hampshire**. Reservations must be in by September 7 and may be canceled until October 2. Two-night reservation (including breakfasts and dinners) is \$230 per person single occupancy and \$150 per person double occupancy.

Philip Strong, on behalf of Edward Finch for New Jersey, noted they are trying to get a meeting in Morristown (NJ).

Gabrielle Bielenstein said that the New York society held a luncheon meeting in May.

Dick Corson reported that the **Southeastern States Region** is no longer a functioning group and requested that the Board revoke its charter. Motion to dissolve the branch and transfer its \$700 treasury balance to the national Society Sustaining Fund was seconded and carried.

John Nelson announced that the **Virginia** society met in April at the Kenmore in Fredericksburg.

Bunny Maupin reported that she had attended a ceremony at the Justin Museum in **Washington, DC**.

Old Business

Barbara Kalbfleisch will look into lighter weight flagpoles for the Society flags and will report back.

Bill Ward stated that rosettes, blazer patches, and scarves would be available for purchase at the banquet.

New Business

Dick Corson appointed a **committee** consisting of Rieman McNamara (chairman), Rosa Maude Cowan, Ruth Hagan, Dorothy Kennedy, and Barbara Kalbfleisch to review/revise the By-Laws and Constitution. After noting erroneous publicity concerning DSDI scholarship information, a motion to limit scholarship publicity to the *Spirit of '76* and major college financial aid catalogs was seconded and carried. There ensued additional discussion on how to allot funds between undergraduate and graduate students. An annual audit of the scholarship books is being conducted by a CPA; a report should be presented at the DSDI meeting next following completion of the audit.

Grace Staller reported that in 13 years (2007) the Society will be 100 years old and that the National Park Service (Independence Square) should have details of our plans for that occasion. She and Barbara Kalbfleisch will act as Society liaison with the Park Service. Work currently is being undertaken on the infrastructure of Independence Square, with consideration of environmental aspects.

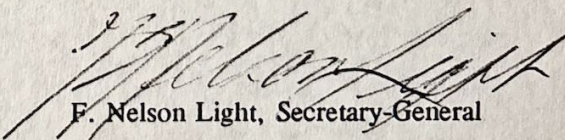
Grace noted that a form for endowment or for death memorial should be published routinely in the *Spirit of '76*.

Barbara Kalbfleisch was authorized to expand on the information published regarding the Society's plaque in the Capitol.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. following the benediction.

Respectfully submitted,



F. Nelson Light, Secretary-General