Virginia Voices

www.virginiafoundingfathers.org

Founded February 2013

Honoring our past ~ Preserving our future

February 2023

Dear Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers,

Deborah Whitmore Hicks
Governor General 2021-2023

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as your Governor General since having been elected on April 12, 2021, and what an amazing two years it has been. During this administration we have gained sixty (60) new members to date, and I look forward to seeing several more applications approved before our annual meeting in the John Paul Jones room at The Army and Navy Club on April 10, 2023, beginning at 10:30AM. Please plan on joining us for champagne mimosas as we toast the ten year anniversary of our growing society.

In addition to increasing membership, another goal of this administration was production of a SDVAFF historic marker. While I attended several historic markings, grave markings, and commemorative events over the past two years, as well as did many of our officers and members, none were for SDVAFF. A special thank you to Historian General Mary Raye Kiser Casper for her hard work on the design of a beautiful marker for our society and for the Historic Marker Committee members, Chaplain Paul Walden and Historian Casper for suggesting marking criteria. The first order of ten markers should be shipped before the end of March, and I am so excited to announce that the first marking will be on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 1:30PM at Dogham Farm, originally 300 acres patented by Joseph Royall and later included in the Isham-Royall Doghams Plantation of qualifying ancestors, Joseph Royall, his wife Katherine Banks, her second husband, Henry Isham, and their children.

(Governor's letter continues on page 2)

Governor General's Letter, continued from page 1

Special thanks to our Registrar-Genealogist Suzanna Rawlins for her hard work in processing the sixty new member applications and 30 supplemental applications. She also scanned all new member apps received since her flood on 4 May 2021. Thank you to members numbered 134-189 that have sent to me an approved record copy of their SDVAFF application or supplemental application to replace our originals lost in the flood. We hope to receive 100% of the missing applications. New procedures to alleviate this problem from occurring in the future were implemented with the bylaw amendments adopted at the last annual meeting on May 23, 2022. Thank you to our bylaw committee members, Chair Mary Raye Casper, Marshal General Julie Hesler, Deputy Governor General Anne Farley, and Honorary Governor General Leslie Kirk for an outstanding job.

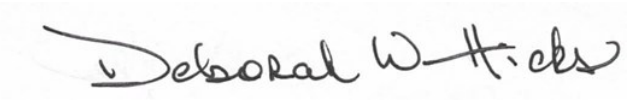
You should have received your 2021-2023 Directory and Register of Ancestors produced by Marshal General Julia Hesler. Thank you Julie for a beautiful directory. If your information is incorrect or changes, please use the form on page 86 to send to me corrections for the next directory.

Thank you to our Treasurer General Barbara Allison, and finance committee members, Chair Lynda Moreau and Secretary General Anne Farley for work on the budgets and keeping our finances in good order.

Chaplain Paul Walden will be conducting the memorial service at our annual meeting for our departed members. Thank you Paul for being a wonderful chaplain. Thank you to Parliamentarian Lila Housden for her services to the society during my administration and to Robin Towns for serving as our sponsor for our upcoming annual meeting.

I cannot say thank you enough to Deputy Governor General, Secretary General, and *Virginia Voices* Editor Anne Farley and Honorary Governor General and Webmistress Leslie Ann Kirk for everything they do for me to make me look good, keeping me on my 'A' game, and for all the work they do behind the scene! Thank you ladies; I am forever in your debt.

Congratulations and Happy 10th Anniversary SDVAFF members!



Deborah W Hicks, SDVAFF Governor General, 2021-2023

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN 2021-2023

ELECTED OFFICERS

Governor General—Deborah Hicks

Deputy Governor General—Anne Farley

Marshal General—Julie Hesler

Secretary General—Anne Farley

Treasurer General—Barbara Allison

Chaplain General—Paul Walden

Historian General—Mary Raye Casper

APPOINTED OFFICERS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Genealogist General—Suzanne Rawlins

Parliamentarian General—Lila Housden

Webmaster General—Leslie Kirk

Bylaws Committee– Mary Raye Casper

Finance Committee– Lynda Moreau

HONORARY GOVERNORS GENERAL

Suzanne Rawlins—2013-2019

Leslie Kirk—2019-2021

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF VIRGINIA FOUNDING FATHERS
Call to 10th Annual Meeting
Monday, April 10, 2023

You are cordially invited to the 2023 Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon

Monday April 10, 2023

10:30 AM—1:30 PM

New officers for the 2023-25 term will be elected and installed.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Thomas A. Costa, D. Div.

"The Role of the Church in Colonial Virginia and
the Impact of the Civil War on Churches in the South"

The Army and Navy Club

John Paul Jones Room
901 Seventeenth Street NW
Washington DC
(through the courtesy of Robin Towns)

Buffet Luncheon cost is $70 per person.
The annual business meeting for The Order of the Steel Magnolias will also be held.
All are welcome.

Reservation mailing and cancellation deadline: March 15, 2023.

To Reserve: Return bottom portion of this page with your check for $70 pp payable to **SDVAFF.**

Mail by March 15 to:

Anne Farley
101 Central Park W #14E
New York, NY 10023-4250

Receipt of your reservation will be confirmed by email by March 25.
Questions: Email: anne.farley@gmail.com (preferred) or call (917) 613-6524

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SDVAFF Registration Form

Number of Reservations ____ X $70= $ _____Amount Enclosed.

Name (s)	
Address	
Address	
Phone	Email

Governor General Deborah Whitmore Hicks

and the Officers General of the

Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers

Cordially invite you to attend the

Historic Marking of

Dogham Farm

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

1601 Dogham Lane

Charles City, VA 23030

Originally 300 acres patented by Joseph Royall

and later included in the Isham-Royall Doghams Plantation.

Other 1600s Owners: Katherine Banks Royall Isham, Joseph Royall, Jr., Henry Isham, Henry Isham, Jr., Mary Isham Randolph and Anne Isham Epes.

Kindly R.S.V.P. by 1 April 2023 to
Deborah W Hicks
334-687-8369 or eufaulalawyer@eufaula.rr.com

Joseph Royall

by Elizabeth 'Beth' Cheney Sewell, a descendant

(Note from Beth: I find many articles regarding the Royalls on the internet; however since the Jamestowne Society recognizes information from Adventurers of Purse and Person, most of the information is from that source. I have also included information from RootsWeb. This article was originally written in 2011,)

At the age of 20, Joseph Royall came to Virginia in the *Charitie* July 1622 by way of New England and was listed in the census, 16 Feb 1623/4, at Neck of Land in Charles City. (In March 1622 the Indians had killed 347 colonists). Joseph survived an outbreak of "burning fever" which killed 500 colonists in 1622.

As shown in the muster, 24 Jan 1624/5 he was in the same place and he and Robert Hallom were servants of Luke Boyse. After her husband's death, Mrs. Alice Boyce petitioned the Court regarding an agreement entered into between her husband and young Royall. There was a Covenant bearing the date 25th day of February 1625/6 wherein Joseph Royall was bound unto the said Luke Boyce to "make or cause to be made gratis for the said Alice Boyce, her child, and such servants as were then of his family all such apparell as they shall weare or use till such day and time as he shall depart this land". A decree of this sort would be difficult to enforce and it is reasonable to conclude that circumstances freed young Royall from the permanent obligation under which Mrs. Boyce sought to place him.

By 15 August 1637, Royall was a land owner in his own right. Royall transported people to Virginia, meaning that he arranged for and paid for their passage, and by doing so was given "headrights" to several thousand acres of land on the James River in an area known as Turkey Island and the Curles on the James. On 8/15/1637 he received 300 acres of land in Henrico Co. on Turkey Island Creek: "fifty acres for transporting his own person, 50 acres for his first wife Thomasin, 50 acres for now wife Ann, 50 acres for brother Henry Royall, and 100 acres for two "others". He received 200 acres in Charles City Co. for transporting four people the next year. In 1642 he received 600 more acres for transporting twelve people which, one source listed, included his third wife Katherine Banks.

Elizabeth Cheney Sewell, descendant of Joseph Royall and Katherine Banks

Royall's plantation eventually grew to 1,100 acres, and by August, 1637, he was a large landowner and had built a mansion at his plantation on the north side of the James River, called Doghams, named after the French river D'Augham. This name, Doghams, is a variation of some French name of a stream in Normandy, from which region the family went to England with William the Conqueror. (http://markcarson.com/family/genealogy/carson/Royall.htm)

Joseph Royall, continued

"This was an excellent location on the James River where ships from England plied the wide river bringing cargoes of fine china, silver, furniture, stylish clothing, and supplies. These products the captains exchanged for tobacco, furs, and wood products."

Dogham Farm remained in the Royall-Isham family for more than 200 years and still stands on the old road between Richmond and Williamsburg. Dogham Farm was approved for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and has been recommended for the Virginia Department of Historic Resources for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

About 1645 Royall married Katherine Banks. They had three children, whose names are known: Joseph Royall; Sarah Royall, who married John Wilkinson; and Katherine Royall, who married Richard Perrin. There were at least two other daughters who names are not listed. When Joseph died, (by 10 March 1656) Katherine was a wealthy woman and married a second time to Henry Isham, Sr. of Bermuda Hundred Plantation. They had three children together. Mary, who married William Randolph; Anne, who married Francis Epes; and Henry Isham, Jr., who died as a young unmarried man. Katherine Banks Royall Isham was the great-great-great grandmother of Thomas Jefferson.

Addendum: On July 30, 2019, Elizabeth and her mother, Ann Cheney, stopped by Dogham Farm on their way home from Jamestowne. Although not open to the public, April 18, 2023, is your chance to visit Dogham Farm. See the SDVAFF historic marking invitation on page 4 of this newsletter.

Above, the Royall –Isham House at Dogham Farm along the James River, and, at right, Ann Cheney and Royall descendant Beth Sewell

SDVAFF Officers —Commemorating History

Governor General Hicks and Marshal General Hesler at Patsiliga Plantation

l-r, Marshal General Julie Hesler, Michael Buckner, GA General Assembly Representative Debbie Buckner (District 137), the Buckner's grandson, and Governor General Deborah Hicks at the Sons and Daughters of Antebellum Planters' marking of Patsiliga Plantation on 6 Nov 2022 at Junction City, GA.

Chaplain General Paul Walden Brings Greetings from SDVAFF at Gunston Hall

On June 11, 2022, Chaplain General Paul Walden, shown at right, brought greetings from the SDVAFF at the Commemoration of the 246th Anniversary of the Virginia Declaration of Rights at Gunston Hall in Lorton, VA. Gunston Hall was the home of George Mason, who authored the Virginia Declaration of Rights in 1776 and served as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1787. George Mason was the great-grandson of Virginia Founding Father George Mason I, who arrived in Virginia in 1652. The event was sponsored by the George Mason Chapter of the Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution.

SDVAFF Chaplain General Paul Walden Honors Two Virginia Presidents

Above, Paul Walden, end right, at the Tyler grave in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, VA

On March 29, 2022, Paul Walden, Chaplain General for SDVAFF, conducted a wreath laying ceremony of behalf of the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia at the grave of John Tyler, 10th US President and Officer in the War of 1812, at Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, VA. The Honor Guard from the Army Quartermaster Depot at Fort Lee, VA, posted colors, and the commanding officer from Fort Lee, Brigadier General Michelle Donohue, gave remarks. John Tyler was one of eight U.S. Presidents native to Virginia, and his family arrived in Virginia in the 17th Century. John Tyler was the first Vice President to become President due to the death of the President, William Henry Harrison, in 1841. Later, Tyler led a compromise movement at the beginning of the Civil War in 1861. He was later elected to the Confederate House of Representatives before his death in 1862. He is buried next to James Monroe, 5th US President and native Virginian.

Above, Walden at the birthplace of James Monroe, Colonial Beach, VA

On April 23, Chaplain General Walden honored James Monroe at the annual memorial service at his reconstructed birthplace in Colonial Beach, VA by placing a wreath for the Virginia Society of the War of 1812. James Monroe, a fifth generation Virginian, played an active role in both the American Revolution and the War of 1812. As we know, James Monroe served first as Secretary of State to President Madison when the War of 1812 began in June 1812. When the British forces landed in Maryland in August 1814, Monroe played a role in the Battle of Bladensburg as a cavalry scout. That battle was a loss for the American forces, resulting in the British invasion of Washington, DC. Monroe was then appointed as Secretary of War in 1814 and actually for a brief while still serving as Secretary of State---one person holding two cabinet positions. Later as the 5th US President, he learned from the shortcomings in the War of 1812, which led to military reform and improved national defenses. And, finally, he articulated the Monroe Doctrine, perhaps his most remembered contribution to American History.

Special People!

MEET OUR CALLIGRAPHER!

Ever wonder who does the beautiful by hand calligraphy work on your SDVAFF certificate? It is this lovely lady, **Jennifer,** shown at left, who welcomed her fourth child into the world in December 2022.

Thank you and congratulations Jennifer!

MEET OUR PARLIAMENTARIAN!

At right, Chaplain General Paul Walden and **Parliamentarian General Lila Housden** attended the 20 May 2022, grave marking for 1812 veteran, Michael Miller, Timberville, VA.

CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL OFFICE—2023-2025

The SDVAFF Nominating Committee of Mary Raye Casper, Lynda Moreau, and Matthew John Barlow, MD, propose the follow candidates for election at the Annual Meeting on April 10, 2023, to serve for the 2023-2025 administration.

Governor General—Paul Walden

Deputy Governor General—Julie Hesler

Marshal General –Diane Dyess

Secretary General—Mary Glenn

Treasurer General—Tony Vets

Chaplain General– Lynda Moreau

Historian General—Brenda Dorsett

Counselor General—Deborah W. Hicks, Esq.

Welcome Our Newest Members

No.	Member Name	Member's Ancestor
209	Stephen Samuel Strauss	Adam Thorowgood
210	Charles Hobart Webb	Robert "King" Carter
211	Janet Claire Schindler Ryan	William Ayers
212	Sue Vaughan Green Evangelista	Thomas Keene
213	Joseph Lonsdale Hunter	Robert Brooke
214	Alice Yarbro Holtin	Benjamin Aydelott
215	Michael Lawrence Faulkner	Walter Chiles I
216	Sanders Garner Mercer, Jr.	Jabez Whitaker
217	Jacque-Lynne Amann Schulman	Edmund Cheesman
218	Robert Carl Pfaff	Stephen Hopkins
219	Sandra Withers von Elten	Thomas Keene
220	Tony L. Vets, Sr.	Benois (Benjamin) Brasseur
221	Charles Paul Featherstun	William Featherstone
222	Ashley Isaacs Ganz	Godrey Ragsdale
223	Claudia Wilson Anderson	Francis Heydon
224	Frederick H. Cron	Stephen Hopkins
225	Ella Margaret Bone Cron	John Johnson, Sr.
226	Kimberly Purifoy Stout	(Capt) Thomas Purifoy
227	Thomas G. Gilbert, Jr., DDS	Benjamin Harrison
228	David Carline Smith	Bartholomew Stoval
229	Jerrie Jones Townsend	Peter Montague
230	Verna Loyd Graff-Gessaman	Miles Cary I
231	Karen Lee Emberton	John Clay
232	M. Susan Melton	Richard Wells

Newest Members, continued

No.	Member Name	Member's Ancestor
233	Henry Elvin Schoenfelt, II	William Cash
234	Christopher Paul Featherstun	William Featherstone
235	Robin Wesley Featherstun	William Featherstone
236	Lee Ann Vaglio	William Featherstone
237	Larry Dan Jordan	Arthur Jordan
238	Jonathan Carlton Wicker	Thomas Wicker
239	Danny Preston Hilton	John George Hylton, II
240	Cheryl Miller Sesma	William Hatcher
241	Robert Herman Wicker	Thomas Wicker
242	Nathaniel Henry Wicker	Thomas Wicker
243	Diane Elaine Agerton Dyess	Derby Dunaway
244	Ann Scott Garner	Thomas Gascoigne/Gaskins
245	Kathy L. Hubbard Hanlon	Thomas Gascoigne
246	Joseph Grayson Kohn	Henry Soane
247	Daphne Greene Wright	James Knott
248	Mary Webster Glenn	Henry Filmer
249	Cynthia Darlyn Grantham Davis	John Woodson
250	Kevin Ray Carr	Thomas Keene

Newly-Approved Supplemental Applications are listed on the back page of the Newsletter.

Be sure to join the SDVAFF Facebook Group:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/305354829596497

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF VIRGINIA FOUNDING FATHERS
Minutes of the 9th Annual Meeting
May 23, 2022

The 9th Annual Meeting of the Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers was held electronically via Zoom on Monday, May 23, 2022. Governor General Deborah W. Hicks presided and called the meeting to order at 6:01PM Central. Deputy Governor General/Secretary General Anne Farley was present and served as Secretary. Other officers, committee chairmen, and committee members present were:

Marshal General Julie Hesler
Treasurer General Barbara Allison
Chaplain General Paul Walden
Historian General Mary Raye Casper
Registrar-Genealogist General Suzanna Rawlins
Parliamentarian General Lila Burner Housden
Finance Committee Chairman Lynda Moreau, members Barbara Allison and Anne Farley
Newsletter Committee Chairman Anne Farley
Webmistress Leslie Kirk
Historic Marker Design Committee Chairman Mary Raye Casper
Historic Marker Policy Committee Chairman Paul Walden, member Mary Raye Casper
Bylaws Committee Chairman Mary Raye Casper, member Leslie Kirk

Total present, including officers, chairmen, committee members, and other members was 37. A list of all present is attached. *(See Addendum to this Newsletter.)*

Opening

The invocation was given by Chaplain General Paul Walden. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Treasurer General Barbara Allison. The American's Creed was led by Marshal General Julie Hesler.

Governor General Hicks welcomed all present and introduced the Society's officers and committee chairmen, Honorary Governors General, other past national officers, and members who serve as presiding officers of other lineage societies.

Parliamentarian General Lila Burner Housden was asked to read Bylaw ARTICLE VII -Meetings B.

Five (5) persons constitute a quorum at all member meetings. Proxy voting is not permitted.

Governor General Hicks declared there was a quorum.

Minutes

The minutes of the April 12, 2021, meeting had been approved by committee and published in the *Virginia Voices* newsletter. No corrections were offered. The reading of the minutes was waived without objection.

Governor General Hicks appointed the committee of Terri Dean and Ann Wilkerson to approve the minutes of this meeting.

Minutes of the 9th Annual Meeting, continued

Note: Full copies of reports referred to in these Minutes are presented as an Addeddum to this issue of Virginia Voices.

Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen

Governor General - Deborah W. Hicks – Governor General Hicks noted that she was the person who had incorporated the organization and is truly honored to now serve as Governor General. Over the past year, she processed 59 Membership Inquiry Forms, and the Society has welcomed 29 new members. She noted that we placed an ad in the SAR magazine that has yielded interest in membership. She reported that the Master Database is now in the cloud, and an historic marker is being developed. She highlighted the contributions of each of the officers and chairmen and thanked them for their work over the past year. Her full report is attached.

Deputy Governor General and Secretary General - Anne Farley - Deputy Governor General and Secretary General Farley noted that she had collected the required Conflict of Interest forms from the full board. She displayed her insignia and encouraged members to order the SDVAFF rhinestone pin to support the Scholarship Fund. Her full report is attached.

Marshal General - Julie Hesler - Marshal General Hesler noted that she is seeking a second bid for printing of the directory. Her full report is attached.

Treasurer General - Barbara Allison– Treasurer General Allison presented a detailed financial report for calendar year 2021. Her report is attached and has been filed.

Chaplain General - Paul Walden -Chaplain General Walden noted that he would be conducting a memorial service for our late member Sonja Hoffman, and that he had sent a card to her family. His report is attached.

Historian General - Mary Raye Casper – Historian General Casper reported that she has been working on the design of an historical marker for the Society. Her report is attached.

Registrar-Genealogist General - Suzanna Rawlins – Registrar Genealogist Rawlins reported that she had approved 29 new member applications and 15 supplemental applications over the past year. One application is currently under review. Her report is attached.

Parliamentarian General - Lila Burner Housden -Her report is attached.

Finance Committee Chairman - Lynda Moreau, members Barbara Allison and Anne Farley – Finance Chairman Moreau presented a detailed review of the proposed budgets for 2022 and 2023. Her narrative report and proposed budgets are attached.

Newsletter Committee Chairman - Anne Farley – Chairman Farley noted the fine article in the February *Virginia Voices* that had been written by member James Campbell. She encouraged other members to submit articles for future issues.

Webmistress - Leslie Kirk -Her report is attached.

Historic Marker Design Committee - Chairman Mary Raye Casper -report attached.

Minutes of the 9th Annual Meeting, continued

Historic Marker Policy Committee Chairman - Paul Walden, member Mary Raye Casper - Chairman Walden reported that the Committee is working on a policy re use of our historic marker and is considering criteria such as:

Buildings/cemeteries constructed before 1700 that are still used as originally intended
Buildings/cemeteries that relate to a Founder prior to 1700, and
Accessibility of the property to the public.

He noted that there are at least fifteen buildings in Virginia extant that were built before 1700 as a residence or church in the Northern Neck area of Virginia, and he highlighted Bacon's Castle built in 1665 in Surrey, VA, as a possible site for a marker.

Bylaws Committee - Chairman Mary Raye Casper, member Leslie Kirk

Parliamentarian General Housden was asked to read Bylaw ARTICLE XI – Amendments, which states the following:

> These Bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting on the recommendation of the Bylaws Committee, with the approval of the Board, provided the notice of meeting is published to the members 30 days prior to the meeting. The notice will contain a summary of the proposed amendment (s). The proposed amendment (s) must receive an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting.

Bylaws Committee Chairman Mary Raye Casper presented each of the proposed bylaw amendments as noted below. Refer to the Attachment for additional details. After the presentation of each proposal, Secretary General Anne Farley, on behalf of the Executive Board, moved adoption of the proposal as presented.

ARTICLE III, Section 2.A. Admission – to read:

> All prospective applicants shall submit a Membership Inquiry Form to the Governor General. All prospective applicants must be approved for membership by affirmative vote of the Membership Committee or must belong to one or more of the United States of America lineage societies such as, but not limited to, the National Society Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, Ancient Planters, Founders and Patriots, any of the three Colonial Dames organizations, Order of the Founders of North America, Descendants of Early Postmasters, Descendants of Colonial Indentured Servants, the men or women's organizations for American Colonists, etc. For applicants approved for membership by the Membership Committee, upon the affirmative vote of the Membership Committee, a written invitation for application will be sent by the Governor General. Upon acceptance of the invitation, the Governor General will furnish the prospective applicant a computer-generated application and instructions for completing the application process. For applicants belonging to other lineage societies, upon review of the Membership Inquiry Form, the Governor General will direct the applicant to download the application and instructions from the society's website.

Minutes of the 9th Annual Meeting, continued

ARTICLE IV-Section 1.C. Honorary Governor Powers – addition, to read:

….Honorary Governors General have no powers beyond those of Life members.

ARTICLE IV– Section 2.A. Executive Board, to read:

The officers listed in ARTICLE IV. Section 1.A. Officers, shall comprise the Executive Board, hereinafter referred to as the "Board."

ARTICLE IV- Section 5.E. Treasurer General, last sentence, to read:

The fiscal year shall be 1 January – 31 December.

ARTICLE IV-Section 5.G. Historian General, addition to read:

….The Historian General shall keep on file a digitized copy of all application papers and all supplemental papers.

ARTICLE IV -Section 6.A. Genealogist General, addition to read:

….The Genealogist General shall provide either a digitized record copy or mail a record copy of the approved application to the new member. The Genealogist shall send a digitized copy of all approved applications and supplemental applications to the Historian General.

ARTICLE V -C. 3. Membership Committee, to read:

This committee is appointed by the Governor General. It will review and approve requests for membership pursuant to ARTICLE III, Section 2.

Each of the above-noted amendments was voted on individually and all were **Adopted.**

Other Recommendations from the Executive Board

On behalf of the Executive Board, Secretary General Anne Farley moved:

To approve the expenditure of $3,000 from the General Fund for tooling and production of an historic marker to be used by the Society for historic markings. **Adopted.**

To adopt the budgets for 2022 and 2023 as presented by the Finance Committee. **Adopted.**

New Business – Election of Nominating Committee.

Parliamentarian General Housden was asked to read Bylaw ARTICLE IV - Officers and Duties, Section 4. Nominating Committee and Election of Officers, which states the following:

In even-numbered years, the Governor General shall appoint one member of the Board to serve on the Nominating Committee. Members attending the Annual Meeting shall elect two members to serve on said committee. This committee of three shall decide on a chairman and select a slate of officers to be presented for election at the Annual Meeting in odd-numbered years.

Minutes of the 9th Annual Meeting, continued

Governor General Hicks announced that she had appointed Mary Raye Casper as the member of the Board to serve on the Nominating Committee, and the floor was open for other nominations. Anne Farley nominated Lynda Moreau, and Lynda Moreau nominated Dr. Matthew John Barlow to serve on the Nominating Committee. No other nominations were made, and **Lynda Moreau and Dr. Matthew John Barlow were elected to the Nominating Committee.**

Memorial Service

Chaplain General Paul Walden conducted a Memorial Service honoring Sonja Yvonne Alexander Hoffman, member number 89, who passed away January 7, 2021.

Program

Governor General Hicks introduced Lynda Moreau who presented the program "Sleep in Colonial America: Why Thomas Jefferson Slept Better than We Do."

Announcements

Governor General Hicks announced that the next annual meeting will be held Monday, April 10, 2023, at The Army and Navy Club, Washington, D.C. She expressed appreciation to COL and Mrs. Charles Robert Odom who are our sponsors at the Club. This will be the Tenth Anniversary of the Society.

Governor General Hicks stated that members whose numbers are 134-189 are encouraged to send a copy of their applications and supplemental applications to Governor General Hicks if they have not already done so.

Governor General Deborah Hicks displayed a book of the history of the Society that had been compiled by Honorary Governor General Leslie Kirk and printed using Honorary Governor General Suzanna Rawlins' Heritage Makers digital program. Members who are interested in purchasing a copy of the book may contact Honorary Governor General Leslie Kirk for more information.

Chaplain General Paul Walden gave the Benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37PM Central.

Submitted by:
Anne Farley, Secretary General

These minutes were approved by the appointed committee of Terri Dean and Ann Wilkerson on May 25, 2022 .

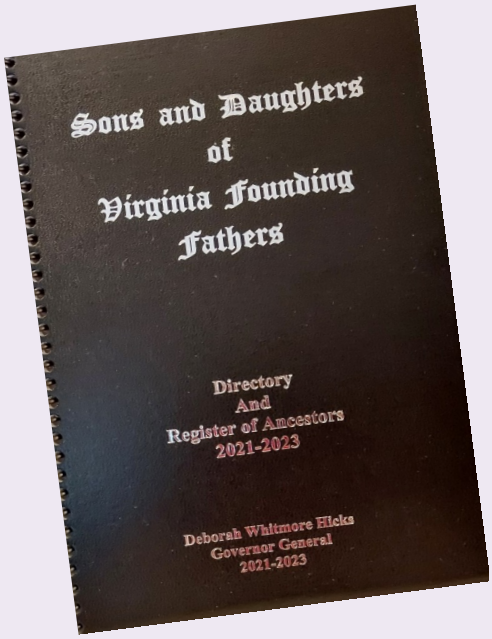
Introducing: SDVAFF'S New Historical Marker

Join us on April 18, 2023, at Dogham Farm in VA for our first historical marking!

Historian General Mary Raye Casper has designed the beautiful 8" historical marker, shown right, for the Society's new Historical Marker Program expected to launch this spring. A Committee of Chaplain General Paul Walden and Historian General Casper are drafting criteria for marking of historic properties that serve to advance our Society's objective to honor early Virginia ancestors, recognize and record the names of the residents of the Virginia Colony prior to 1700, and preserve the history of the United States.

The marker features at its center a drawing of the *Susan Constant*, the Jamestown settlement's flagship, which is also the focal point of our insignia. Surrounding the ship feature is a wreath of olive leaves overlaid with a stylized version of a tobacco leaves. A stylized image of the flower of the tobacco plant is featured at the bottom of the marker between the focus dates of our Society.

Funding ($3,000) for tooling and production of the new markers was approved at the Society's 2022 Annual Meeting, and the first order has been placed with Citypride, Ltd.



PLEASE KEEP YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CURRENT!

If your contact information has changed since the publication of our 2021-2023 Directory, shown left, please email your updates and/or corrections to Marshal General Julie Hesler.

Email: julie.hesler@icloud.com

Support Our Scholarship Program!

Scholarship Information

The Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers was founded to honor the memory and service of those men and women who were part of the creation of the Virginia colony. It is part of our mission to help educate our membership on the role Virginia played in the founding of this great country. To this extent, each year, a student enrolled at a Virginia college or university is selected as our scholarship recipient.

Sales of our **crystal brooch,** shown right, benefit our Scholarship Program. You can order it using the form below (only until March 15, 2023) or purchase a brooch at the Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Produced by Pamela Wright Collections, the brooch features Swarovski crystals that spell out the letters SDVAFF on a silver-tone base. The brooch is 2-1/2" wide and 5/8" tall. The cost is $20 plus $5 shipping.

*****USE FORM BELOW ONLY UNTIL MARCH 15, 2023*****

After April 10, 2023, contact the newly elected Governor General for purchase instructions.

Make check payable to SDVAFF and mail order form to the Deputy Governor General Anne Farley at the address below.

Anne Farley
101 Central Park W Apt 14E
New York, NY 10023-4250
anne.farley@gmail.com

Member Name: _____

Phone Number:_____

Email:_____

Ship to: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:**_____

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Spotlight on My SDVAFF Ancestor, aka My Gateway Ancestor

by Brenda Dorsett

From the Hereditary Society Community's website: "In American genealogy, the term ***[gateway ancestor]*** *is most often used for immigrants, colonial or more recent, who provide their descendants in the New World with significant traceable pre-modern ancestry in the Old World, including descent from one or more European kings." https://hereditary.us/gateway-ancestor Retrieved Jan 6, 2023.*

I never considered looking for a Gateway Ancestor. I am not even sure I really knew what a Gateway Ancestor was until a fellow researcher insisted I had to have one and was very persuasive that I research it. Much to my surprise, I did have a Gateway Ancestor — Francis Epes (VA) — the ancestor I used for my application for membership to SDVAFF.

According to *Adventurers of Purse and Person VIRGINIA 1607-1624/5 Fourth Edition Volume One*, Francis Epes, baptized 14 May 1597, was the son of John Epes, of Ashford, Kent, England and his wife, Thomazine Fisher. He was in Virginia by 1625 when elected from Shirley Hundred to sit in the Assembly at James City. He was a member, 1631/32, of the House of Burgesses for Shirley Hundred, and for Charles City 1639/40 and 1645/46. Francis Epes, my 12th great grandfather, was a descendant of Geoffrey de Say, Knight of Edmonton, Surety Baron Magna Charta, born ca. 1180, died 19 Aug 1230; my 24th Great-Grandfather.

My surname listing that initially led me to Francis Epes is:

* Eatmon (Wilson Co. NC);
* Coleman (Wilson/Nash/Edgecombe Cos. NC);
* Haynes (Edgecombe Co. NC);
* Knight (Edgecombe Co. NC, Sussex/Surry Cos. VA)
* Epes (Charles City Co. VA).

Should anyone have these surnames in their lines and wish more information, please feel free to contact me.

I had a lot of help in proving the line from Epes to Geoffrey de Say for which I am very grateful. If you are interested in proving a Gateway Ancestor, I recommend you look at the online listing of Gateway Ancestors. You might be surprised to find your SDVAFF ancestor on the list. And, I must say it is great fun to receive mail addressed to *Baroness Brenda Dorsett*.

Pictured above right: Photograph by Carol Highsmith of the oil painting "Magna Charta" by Boardman Robinson located in stairway of Great Hall, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. Collections of Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.
https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2010720201/ Retrieved Jan 6, 2023.

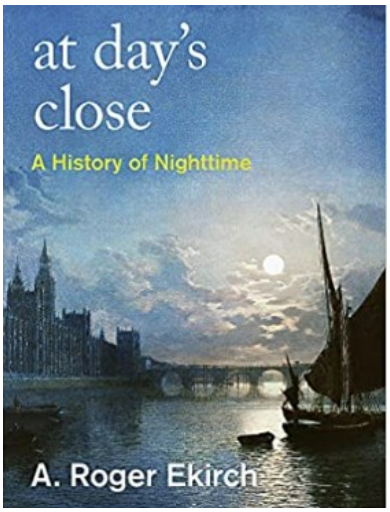
Sleep in Colonial America: Why Thomas Jefferson Slept Better than You Do !

by Lynda Moreau

This article is adapted from the author's presentation at the Society's 2022 Annual Meeting.

It's 2:00 a.m. I'm jolted awake. The room is dark and still. I grab my phone and scan Facebook for a while. Still awake. I remember that I read somewhere "to overcome middle of the night insomnia, experts say you ought to get out of bed….I get out of bed. I pour myself a glass of water and drink it. I visit the bathroom, even though I don't really need to "go." I go back to bed. Still awake. Perhaps you know the feeling. Like millions of Americans and hundreds of millions of people around the world, I sometimes suffer from so-called mid-sleep awakenings that can occasionally keep me up for hours.

One day I was researching my night-time problems when I discovered a group of writers and historians who claimed that modern day sleep is problematic because of the industrial revolution. They recommended an old fix for restlessness called "segmented sleep". In premodern Europe and America, people routinely went to sleep around nightfall and woke up around midnight – only to go back to sleep a few hours later until morning. They slept sort of like I do, but they weren't worried about it. Then, apparently modern life came along and ruined everything by pressuring everyone to sleep in one big chunk. This fascinated me, so I delved into the writings of Roger Ekirch, the Virginia historian whose work broke open the field of historically segmented sleep.



In the 1980s, the author was researching a book about nighttime before the industrial revolution. One day in London, wading through public records, he stumbled on references to "first sleep" and "second sleep" in a crime report from the 1600s. He had never seen these phrases before. When he broadened his search, he found mentions of "first sleep" in Italian, French, and even Latin – he also found documentation in Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, and Latin America.

Stare into a campfire at night – especially after a meal - and what happens? You get sleepy. The natural thing to do after a long day of work and a full stomach is to go to bed. Sleeping in colonial time required practically zero resources, except possibly a bit of fire in the fireplace for heat. What happens come winter, and you get twelve to fourteen hours of darkness? People don't typically sleep that long. Instead, even as modern science suggests, seven to nine total hours of sleep is about all an adult needs.

So…let's talk about bedtime in Virginia's colonial past….

It's a rainy day in late October 1687. You sit weaving at the loom, the rising and falling treadles clacking over the downpour outside the window. The sky clears an hour before dusk, and satisfied with your daily weaving quota, you stop to wander around a local wood, forage for mushrooms, and then walk into the village to watch a public hanging. Two hours after sunset, you retire to bed.

Sleep in Colonial America, continued

And yet…around midnight, something steals you away from sweet oblivion – but what? You wake up, light a candle and tobacco pipe from the fireplace embers. You sit by the bed to check on your poorly wife. An hour passes in pleasant chat, then you put in half an hour's routine maintenance on the lathe, and eventually the waning candle light entices you back to bed, where you collapse lifeless until morning.

This account is based on the legal deposition of Jon Cockburne, a 17th century weaver who claimed on the night in question to "have gotten his first sleip and awaiking furth." I have added some colorful details from other records of the time, but I have kept the chronology historically accurate, for — though his cottage walls are thin — it isn't noise that wakes him. Nor is it the need to urinate or smoke, though each is a welcome relief. And, lest we believe that Jon Cockburne is some kind of historical outlier, it is worth noting that almost everyone in his village is up and active in the dead of night.

Most of those folks were doing ordinary things that would evoke no scrutiny, but not all. Luke Atkinson, around the same time period in England, often used the time to frequent other people's houses for sinister deeds (according to his wife) and even managed to squeeze in an early morning murder between his sleeps one night. That initial reference to "first sleep" Historian Ekirch found was in a 1697 legal document – the deposition of a 9 year old girl called Jane Rowth who mentioned that her mother awoke after her "first sleep" to go out. The mother was later found dead.

In the 17th century, a night of routine sleep went something like this – from as early as 7 or 8 p.m., those fortunate enough to afford them would begin flopping down onto mattresses stuffed with straw or rags – or perhaps feathers, if they were wealthy – ready to sleep for a few hours. At the bottom of the social ladder, people would have to make do with nesting down in a pile of hay or even a bare earth floor – possibly even without a blanket.

At the time, most people slept communally, and often found themselves snuggled up with a cozy assortment of bedbugs, fleas, lice, family members, pets, friends, servants and – if they were traveling – total strangers.

A couple of hours later, people would begin rousing from this initial slumber. The night time wakefulness usually lasted from around 11:00 p.m. to about 1:00 a.m or so, depending on what time they went to bed. It was not generally caused by noise or other disturbances of the night – and neither was it initiated by any kind of alarm (this was only invented in 1787 by an American man who – ironically – needed to wake up on time to sell clocks). Instead, the waking happened entirely naturally, just as it does in the morning.

The period of wakefulness that followed was known as "the watch" by English speakers – and it was a surprisingly useful window to get things done. The French called it Dorveille, or "wake sleep."

Under the weak glow of moonlight, oil lamps, or candles, people would tend to ordinary tasks, such as adding wood to the fire, or taking medicine or remedies. Some even visited their neighbors, because virtually everyone was up. For peasants, waking up meant getting down to serious work, such

as chopping wood, venturing outdoors to check on farm animals or repair tools or farm implements. It was essentially a sort of second workday for most women who rose at midnight to finish domestic chores like sewing or mending. Naturally, criminals took the opportunity to skulk around and make trouble – like that murder in Yorkshire. Crimes of a more petty nature, such as taking the opportunity of darkness to steal your neighbor's firewood, were common.

The upper class more often spent their waking period for meditation, introspection, journal or letter writing, and prayer– though not necessarily in that order. Many of them never left their beds, and regarded this time as a valuable, and in fact a sacred interval of time in which to reflect on the day's events, meditate and pray. This was also considered an ideal time to write down and reflect on your dreams and ponder their meaning.

There was often-time something ELSE going on between First Sleep and Second Sleep – SEX. For husbands and wives who managed the logistics of having to share a bed with others, it was a convenient time for physical intimacy – if they'd had a long day of manual labor, the First Sleep took the edge of their exhaustion and a physician's manual advised couples that the best time to conceive was not at the end of a long day of work but "after the first sleep" when they would "have more enjoyment" and "do it better."

Virginian Thomas Jefferson was a man of his time in many ways, including sleeping customs. He did make at least one interesting innovation. One bit of household décor he had observed in France and brought to the US was the Alcove Bed. He installed several at Monticello, including one in his own bedroom, placing his bed between the wall of his dressing room and his study. You may have heard stories about how it could be lifted into the ceiling via pulleys and cables so that the alcove could be used as a doorway – but alas, no evidence of this was either in written documentation OR remaining physical evidence. Jefferson's bed was not nearly long enough to accommodate his 6'2" frame in a prone position. Bear in mind that at that time ALL beds and mattresses were custom made. However, it has been documented that Jefferson preferred to sleep in a sitting position due to his propensity for reading in bed and writing during the wee hours of the night. The length of the bed helped him to do that.

He also wanted to be able to easily get out of bed into either room during the night – to receive a nocturnal visitor OR work in his study after his First Sleep. No matter what time he went to bed, he rose as soon as he could see the hands on the clock that was kept on a shelf in the alcove directly across from his bed.

So….what happened? Why did First and Second Sleep become a dusty footnote in the pages of history??? Two reasons – industrialization and artificial lighting.

In the early 1800s, Paris and London installed gas street lights. This changed everything. Before streetlights, the Night was often a scary and dangerous place. Being up late and leaving your house meant wandering towns in terror, tripping over stray animals until the wind blew out your lantern stayed up later and later into the night, setting a trend which percolated to the lower rungs of society as lighting became more and more commonplace. Coffee Houses, as taverns were commonly

Sleep in Colonial America, continued

known, began to stay open all night. Balls and other entertainments could continue well into the wee hours – often ending only at dawn, when the daylight made it safe to venture home again. As the night became a place for legitimate activity, and as that activity increased, the length of time people could dedicate to rest dwindled.

A bit later, industrialization forever changed Western sleep patterns. Clocks became more accurate and common place, and time was standardized. More and more people began working in factories rather than on farms, and the population lived by strict time schedules rather than natural light patterns. Efficiency became an organizing principle of their lives. By the mid 1800s, "Early Rising" societies had taken off in England and America. Many began to accept the belief that sleep was a waste of time that could be better spent working… a belief that Founding Father Benjamin Franklin had often espoused in *Poor Richard's Almanack* 100 years EARLIER.

References to First and Second sleep started to dwindle in the late 17th century. By the 1920s the idea of a First and Second sleep had disappeared entirely from our social consciousness. By the end of the 19th century, the Second Sleep was little more than turning over in one's bed for an extra ten minutes of snoozing after the morning alarm went off.

So – why did Thomas Jefferson and many of our ancestors sleep better than we do? Two big reasons – they let nature take its course by basically sleeping in shifts, and they DIDN'T have modern electronic devices.

The assault on our primordial rhythm is more pronounced than ever. Bedrooms are supposed to be places of rest, but are increasingly filled with distractions like TVs, laptops and cell phones, making it harder for young people to nod off. We have more different types of entertainment than ever, making the temptation to stay awake greater. The blue light emitted by electronic devices has an effect on the brain and makes us feel less sleepy – and the activity itself stimulates our brain when we SHOULD be winding down. One of the worst things you can do if you want quality sleep is to sleep with the TV on.

Humans hold the distinction of being the only beings that have artificially expanded our photoperiod – the period of time each day that an organism receives light. We have basically managed to engineer a sort of perpetual summer by using artificial light an average of sixteen hours a day, whatever the season, and it is shoehorning sleep into an unnaturally small window. But – there is no going back because societal conditions have changed too dramatically.

In some ways, the 21st century is a GOLDEN AGE for sleep – a time when most of us no longer have to worry about being murdered in our beds, freezing to death, flicking off lice, or snuggling next to strangers. In short, a single period of slumber might not be "natural" – but neither are memory foam mattresses or modern hygiene. Though we may be missing out on confidential midnight chats in bed, a 1:00 a.m. visit from the neighbor, or getting up to write down our dreams in a journal – at least these days we don't wake up covered in angry red bites next to a stinky stranger!

Supplemental Applications Approved
March 1, 2022 and thereafter

Member—Brenda Eatmon Dorsett			
177-20	Diane Bragg	177-24	John Epes
177-21	James Bragg	177-25	John Barnes
177-22	Mary Kent	177-26	Thomas Pittman, Sr.
177-23	Thomas Barnes		

Member—Kimberly Purifoy Stout			
226-1	Thomas Nicholas Purifoy	226-3	Lucy Ransom Purifoy
226-2	Thomas Purifoy II		

Member– Suzanne Rawlins			
Founder—10	Richard Scruggs	Founder—13	Henry Scruggs
Founder—11	Henery Scruggs	Founder—14	Elizabeth _____
Founder—12	Ann Grose		

YOUR HELP NEEDED!

Sadly, Honorary Governor General Suzanna Rawlins, who is also our Registrar—Genealogist General — endured a terrible flood at her home. Some of our original applications and many supplemental applications, along with proofs, were destroyed in the flood, and we want to rebuild our files. Copies of applications for members numbered 134 - 189 are needed. For supplemental application copies needed, please inquire.

If you have a copy of your application, preferably your approved application, and proofs from 1850 to your propositus ancestor, please scan the applications and proofs and email them to Governor General Hicks at eufaulalawyer@gmail.com. Alternatively, please make clear copies and mail them to:

Deborah W. Hicks
1132 N Eufaula Avenue
Eufaula, AL 36027-5537

Thank you so much for your help with this important project.

Virginia Voices, February 2023. Compiled by Anne Farley.
Please forward corrections to: anne.farley@gmail.com.