



Virginia Voices

www.virginiafoundingfathers.org

Founded February 2013

Honoring our past ~ Preserving our future

Volume 10, December 2023

Dear Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers,

I hope everyone is getting ready for the holidays. I always enjoy this time of year: the weather cools off but not yet too cold, and there is all the brewing excitement of the holidays (seems the stores bring out the Christmas gear earlier and earlier though). It has been my honor and pleasure to be elected as your next Governor General at our April meeting. One project I wanted to continue is our recognition of historic sites in Virginia that our Governor General Hicks initiated. One site that I am considering is the Bacon's Castle in Surry. This building is the oldest brick dwelling in North America, built in 1665, and was named "Bacon's Castle" when used by Nathaniel Bacon's men during the 1676 Bacon's Rebellion.

We awarded a scholarship toward the tuition for Joab Lesesne, a student at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg in September.

In future newsletters, I would like to include a biographical sketch of your Virginia Founding Father (or Mother) ancestor. Also, please inform me of any events you participated in that honored a historic event or person. Examples would be a SAR/DAR grave marking or a historic site commemoration. I look forward to seeing many of you at our annual meeting on April 8, 2024 at the Army and Navy Club in Washington, DC, and am grateful to Robin Towns for sponsoring our event.

Having been the past Registrar for another society, I really appreciate the hard work by our Genealogist-Registrar Suzanna Rawlins in approving 20 new member applications and 23 supplementals this year. Being a genealogist is hard work, especially when one is having to review 10 or more

generations back to the 17th Century. This position is so vital to the growth of a society such as ours. I must also thank Diane Dyess for serving on the membership committee with me. Another member deserving praise is our webmistress Leslie Kirk: having an updated website informs the public of our society and attracts new members.

We are in need of a Finance Committee Chair, so if you are interested, please contact me. Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season to all!

Paul Walden
Governor General



Paul Walden
Governor General 2023-25

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN 2021-2023

ELECTED OFFICERS

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

APPOINTED OFFICERS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Genealogist General—Suzanne Rawlins
Parliamentarian General—Lila Housden
Webmaster General—Leslie Kirk
Bylaws Committee— Mary Raye Casper
Finance Committee— vacant

HONORARY GOVERNORS GENERAL

Suzanna Rawlins—2013-2019
Leslie Kirk—2019-2021
Deborah W. Hicks-2023-25

In Memory of Members We Have Lost

Bonnie Shank Shelton, Member 65, Passed on March 23, 2022

obituary at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/williamsburg-va/bonnie-shelton-10643366>

SDVAFF Officers — Commemorating History



Doghams Farm Plaque Dedication

On April 18, 2023, Honorary Governor General Deborah Hicks and newly-elected Governor General Paul Walden presented Dr. and Mrs. Bill Nordt, current owner of Doghams Farm, with a SDVAFF plaque to honor their home's place in Virginia History. The home was built in the 17th century by Virginia Founding Father Joseph Royall. A detailed history of the home appears in the February 2023 Virginia Voices.

Gov. Gen. Paul Walden participated in Gravemarking of War of 1812 Patriot in Alexandria VA



On June 3, Governor General Paul Walden, participated in a grave marking ceremony for War of 1812 veteran and noted Alexandria, Virginia citizen Dr. James Carson. The ceremony was conducted by the U.S. Daughters of 1812 at his gravesite in the Christ Church Episcopal Cemetery in Alexandria. Dr. Carson, among other contributions, was the 2nd commander of Alexandria's first fire company, superintendent of police, Justice of the Peace, and attendant to General Lafayette on his visit to Virginia in 1824. His descendant, Claire Benett, a member of the USD of 1812, researched his genealogy and planned the event.

Highlights from 10th Annual Meeting

top left: members from SDVAFF and Order of Steel Magnolias; top right: Guest Speaker Rev. Tom Costa; bottom left: Past Gov. Gen. Kirk installs new officers



Welcome our New Members

Member #	Member Name	Ancestor
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 Car	Thomas Keene
251	Barbara Ann Waggaman	William Armistead
252	Ann Hatchett Cheney	Richard Nichols
253	Elizabeth Cheney Sewell	Henry Nichols
254	Sherry Lee Cole	Phillip Burrow
255	Marguerite Ann Bock Mogila	Joseph Royall
256	Connie Gail Smith Hall	Richmond Terrell
257	Trisha Ann Holland Moseley	Edward Grendon
258	Baxter Keith Bedell	James B Speed
259	Allison Renee Black Strange	Alexander Mountney
260	Kriss Elaine Moreland Budno	Thomas Bennett
261	Geni Marie Mitchell Dixon	Thomas Fareley/Farley
262	Peter John Williamson	Stephen Hopkins
263	Christopher Edward Chapman	Jabez Whitaker
264	Charles Kent Leftwich	Thomas Leftwich, Sr.

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>

Minutes from April 10, 2023 10th Annual Meeting

The 10th Annual Meeting of the Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers was held at The Army and Navy Club, Washington, D.C., on Monday, April 10, 2023. Governor General Deborah W. Hicks presided and called the meeting to order at 10:30AM Eastern. Deputy Governor General/Secretary General Anne Farley was present and served as Secretary.

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 Deputy Governor General Anne Farley. The American's Creed was led by Marshal General Julie Hesler. The Salute to the Flag of the Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers was led by Historian General Mary Raye Casper.

Governor General Hicks welcomed all present and introduced the Society's Officers, other Distinguished Guests, and attendees who were the National Presiding Officers of other lineage organizations. All were invited to bring greetings:

- Honorary Governor General and Registrar/Genealogist Suzanna Rawlins, also President of Descendants of Colonial Regulators and Governor of the Order of the Descendants of El Cid
- Honorary Governor General Leslie Kirk, also President of the Order of the Steel Magnolias, and Parliamentarian pro-tem for this meeting
- Deputy Governor General, Secretary General, and Editor of *Virginia Voices* Anne Farley
- Marshal General Julie Hesler
- Chaplain General Paul Walden
- Historian General, Bylaws Committee Chairman, and designer of the Society's new historic marker - Mary Raye Casper
- Karen McClendon, Founding Board Member/Registrar/Genealogist
- Finance Committee Chairman Lynda Moreau, presiding officer of the Order of William the Marshal
- Sponsor at The Army and Navy Club – Robin Towns, also President General, Sons and Daughters of Colonial and Antebellum Bench and Bar
- Melissa Fischer, Chief Coroner, Descendants of Fossors; President, National Society of Saints and Sinners; and National President, National Society Southern Dames of America
- Pat Gallagher, Postmaster General, Descendants of Early Postmasters 1607-1900
- Mary Glenn, Governor General, Continental Society Daughters of Indian Wars
- Ann Scott Garner, President, Order of the House of Wessex; Descendants of Colonial Mothers 1607-1776; and Chief Justiciar, Order of the Descendants of the Justiciars.

Treasurer General Barbara Allison and Parliamentarian General Lila Housden were both excused, and best wishes were extended for these dedicated officers. A list of all attendees is attached to these Minutes.

Governor Hicks read Bylaw ARTICLE VII -Meetings B: Five persons constitute a quorum at all member meetings. Proxy voting is not permitted.

Deputy Governor General Anne Farley reported that there were eighteen pre-registered members present, and Governor General Hicks declared there was a quorum.

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 23, 2023, meeting were 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 Brenda Dorsett and Lynda Moreau to approve the minutes of this meeting.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Governor General - Deborah W. Hicks – Over the last year, this officer has expeditiously processed many Membership Inquiry Forms, of which over thirty have submitted verified applications and have been admitted as new members. Thank you to Honorary Governor General Suzanna Rawlins, who also serves as our Registrar-Genealogist, for your time and effort in approving new member applications and supplemental applications in a timely manner. During this administration we have gained more than sixty new members, but I am going to leave the actual number to report to our genie. I know that very soon we will hit the 300-member mark.

After the last annual meeting, our focus turned to getting out our bi-annual directory and our historic marker project. Thank you, Marshal General Julie Hesler, for your work on the directory. Mary Raye Casper designed for us a beautiful marker and CityPride has produced ten for us. Our first marker will be presented on April 18, 2023, at Dogham Farm in Charles City, VA.

[At this time, the new marker, on a display stand, was revealed to the Meeting by Historian General Mary Raye Casper to great applause.]

This officer worked with our dedicated Treasurer General Barbara Allison and Chairman of the Finance Committee, Lynda Moreau, on the budget being presented today. Again, thoughtful consideration was given to the proposal.

Thank you to all the members of the Executive Board and to the Committee Chairs for their hard work and assistance of the past year. Thank you for allowing me to serve you as your Governor General. It is my honor and privilege to serve you.

Deputy Governor General and Secretary General - Anne Farley - The Deputy Governor General is to assist and support the Governor General as needed and is to encourage the purchase of and authorize orders for our beautiful insignia.

Hamilton Insignia is the authorized jeweler for the Society, and orders may be placed directly on their website at hamiltoninsignia.com. Ten orders for insignia totaling \$1,809 were placed in 2022, and six orders totaling \$1,235 have been placed in calendar 2023 to date. Orders are approved by this officer the same day they are received.

This officer also received and compiled the registration for the 2023 Annual Meeting, deposited all checks received from attendees, and provided copies of all registration materials to the Governor General, Treasurer General, and the President of the Order of the Steel Magnolias.

As a native of Richmond, VA, this Society means a great deal to this officer, and it has been my honor to work with the officers, chairmen, and members of this Society in Governor Hicks' administration.

Marshal General - Julie Hesler - This officer updated the Directory for the Hicks Administration. It was printed, including changes to the bylaws that were approved at the 2022 annual meeting, and mailed in the summer of 2022. Printing and mailing were handled by Direct Mail Printers, printers of our previous directory.

It has been an honor to serve as Marshal for the Hicks Administration.

Secretary General – Anne Farley - The Secretary General's report was filed and is attached to these Minutes.

Treasurer General – The Treasurer's report was presented by Finance Chairman Lynda Moreau. The report is attached to these minutes and has been filed for review.

Chaplain General - Paul Walden - Since our last meeting, this officer is aware of the passing of one member, Julia Jan French Wood (#69) of Mandeville, Louisiana who passed on August 17, 2022. She had been a member of SDVAFF since 2015. I sent a sympathy card to the family.

Historian General - Mary Raye Casper – To honor our past and preserve our future, this Officer has collected and preserved documents and materials relating to the history of the founding of the Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers and the Society's operations and events during this 2021-2023 Administration.

This Officer is grateful and honored to have been asked by our Governor General to create the design for the Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers historical marker to be used for marking 1607 – 1699 period historical sites in colonial Virginia, and other approved sites relating to Virginia's Founders who arrived in Virginia or were born in Virginia prior to 1700. This Officer assisted our Governor General and our chosen vendor, Citypride, Ltd., to make this important Society effort a reality.

Thank you, Governor General Deborah Hicks, and all of our 2021-2023 Officers General for the opportunity to have worked with you to advance the goals of the Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers.

Registrar-Genealogist General - Suzanna Rawlins – For the 2022-2023 year, forty new members were added with twenty-eight supplemental applications approved. The last membership number assigned was 258.

For the full duration of the Hicks Administration 2021-2023, sixty-nine new members were added, and forty-three supplemental applications were approved.

All applications were approved in a timely manner with each approval receiving a copy of the approved application and a welcome letter from the Genealogist General.

Certificate invoices were paid promptly to the Calligrapher upon receipt.

The membership database on Dropbox was updated when applications were reviewed and approved so that the Governor General was kept abreast of all membership changes and updates. Membership applications were scanned and uploaded to the Dropbox folder. Original copies were sent to the Governor General for safe keeping.

It has been a pleasure to serve in the Hicks Administration and the Society which is near and dear to my heart.

Parliamentarian General - Lila Burner Housden -The Parliamentarian General's report was filed and is attached to these minutes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Newsletter Committee Chairman - Anne Farley – This Chairman compiled the 24-page February 2023 newsletter, *Virginia Voices*, and distributed it by email to 252 members whose email addresses are on file. Member submissions for the newsletter are encouraged, and this Chairman wishes to recognize members Brenda Dorsett, Lynda Moreau, and Beth Sewell for their excellent articles included in the February 2023 *Virginia Voices*.

Webmistress - Leslie Kirk - This webmistress designed and has maintained current the Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers since 2013. The website currently consists of 21 pages of society information that includes the organization's history, officers, ancestors, membership information, insignia, forms, newsletters, and event photographs. The website was built and published using a free internet program therefore the only cost to the Society is the domain address. The domain came up for renewal in January 2023. Governor General Deborah Hicks authorized the renewal at a discounted rate for five years at \$84.86. Governor Hicks is also the backup person on the account and has access to the website as an administrator.

The society's website should be considered a membership tool and is only as good as the material submitted. The officers and members can help keep the website current and interesting by submitting new ancestors, general information and photos when available.

The website address is: <http://www.virginiafoundingfathers.org>

It is an honor to serve in the Hicks administration.

Historic Marker Design Committee - Chairman Mary Raye Casper – It was an honor and pleasure to be asked by Governor General Hicks to design an historic marker for the Society.

The design 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 laurel 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.

Historic Marker Policy Committee Chairman - Paul Walden – The Committee has developed criteria for marking of historic sites. There are many potential sites in Virginia for marking by our Society. [For the parameters developed, see the attachment to these Minutes.]

Bylaws Committee Chairman – Mary Raye Casper – This Chairman and Committee member Leslie Kirk thank the assembly at the 2022 electronic 9th Annual Meeting for their review and approval of the proposed Bylaws Amendments.

Following the close of the 2022 Annual Meeting and to date, this Chairman has received no Bylaws questions or additional requests to review or to propose possible amendments to our Society's national Bylaws.

Thank you, Madam Governor General, for the opportunity to have serve as the Bylaws Committee Chairman during your 2021-2023 Administration.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Chaplain General Paul Walden conducted a Memorial Service remembering Julia French Wood who died August 17, 2022. She was member number 69 and was admitted February 26, 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of Budget for 2024 - Finance Committee Chairman Lynda Moreau presented the proposed budget for 2024.

MOTION: Chairman Moreau moved the adoption of the budget for 2024 as presented. All were in favor and **the budget for 2024 was approved as presented.**

The approved budget for 2024 is attached to these minutes.

Election of Officers - Nominating Committee Chairman Mary Raye Casper reported as follows:

Following the 2021 electronic 9th Annual Meeting, a Nominating Committee of one Executive Board member and two additional Society members was charged with the task of securing a slate of Officers to be presented for election at this April 10th, 2023, Annual Meeting. This Nominating Committee of Mary Raye Casper, Lynda Moreau, and Matthew John Barlow, MD, met by Zoom and also communicated by numerous emails to complete this important work.

The Nominating Committee of the Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers presents the following members for election to be your Executive Board 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

This Chairman is grateful for the assistance of Lynda Moreau and Matthew John Barlow, MD, and for their steadfast work to complete the work of this Committee.

MOTION: Chairman Casper moved that the nominations be closed and that the slate be elected by acclamation. All were in favor, and **the slate as presented was elected the officers for the 2023-2025 administration.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Honorary Governor General Leslie Kirk reminded members that she has compiled and printed a History of the Organization, Vol I, covering February 2013 to April 2021. Information is on our website.
- b. Governor General Hicks announced that the next annual meeting will be held Monday, April 8, 2024, at The Army and Navy Club, Washington, D.C. She expressed appreciation to Robin Towns who is our sponsor at the Club.
- c. 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.
- d. Members were asked to please purchase an SDVAFF brooch to help support our scholarship program. Order forms are on the website and in the *Virginia Voices*. There is a special discounted price at this meeting of \$15.
- e. Thank you to all for attending the meeting and thank you to all of the officers and committees for their hard work behind the scenes.
- f. Please gather for a group photo in the hallway before we depart.

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

Honorary Governor General Leslie Kirk installed the newly-elected officers for 2023-2025.

ELECTION OF HONORARY GOVERNOR GENERAL

Newly-installed Governor General Paul Walden asked Governor General Deborah Hicks to step out of the room.

MOTION: Anne Farley moved the election of Deborah Hicks as Honorary Governor General. All were in favor and **Deborah Hicks was elected Honorary Governor General.**

Deborah Hicks was invited back into the room and advised of her election to great applause. Governor General Walden presented Honorary Governor General Hicks with a gift from the board.

Immediate Past Chaplain General Paul Walden offered the blessing for lunch.

10th ANNIVERSARY TOAST

Honorary Governors General Suzanna Rawlins and Leslie Kirk each offered remarks celebrating the tenth anniversary of this Society, and a mimosa toast was enjoyed by all.

The business meeting was adjourned at 12PM Eastern.

PROGRAM

Subsequent to the meeting of the Order of the Steel Magnolias and the luncheon, the guest speaker Rev. Thomas A. Costa, D. Div. presented the program “The Role of the Church in Colonial Virginia and the Impact of the Civil War on Churches in the South”.

Submitted by:

Anne Farley, Secretary General



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 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.

Make check payable to SDVAFF and mail order form to

Paul Walden
Governor General SDVAFF
12018 Canter Lane
Reston, Virginia 20191-2113

Member Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Ship to: _____

Street: _____

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

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ **\$25 each, check payable to SDVAFF.**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND!

Supplemental Applications Approved since January 1, 2023

Supplemental #	Member Name	Ancestor
177-27	Dorsett Brenda Eatmon	Crump Susanna
177-28	Dorsett Brenda Eatmon	Cade, Sr. Robert
177-29	Dorsett Brenda Eatmon	Crump Stephen
244-1	Garner Ann Scott	Taylor I John
244-2	Garner Ann Scott	Vezey George
244-3	Garner Ann Scott	Basye Edmond
178-1	Hesler Julia Palmer	Fletcher William
178-2	Hesler Julia Palmer	Selvey Tobias
178-3	Hesler Julia Palmer	Macon Gideon
178-4	Hesler Julia Palmer	Macon William
246-1	Kohn Joseph Grayson	Thweatt II James
246-2	Kohn Joseph Grayson	Sloane Judith
255-1	Mogila Marguerite Ann Bock	Hatcher William
F - supp 10	Rawlins Suzanna Etheridge	Scruggs Richard
F -supp 11	Rawlins Suzanna Etheridge	Scruggs Henery
F-supp 12	Rawlins Suzanna Etheridge	Grose Ann
F-supp 13	Rawlins Suzanna Etheridge	Scruggs Henry
F supp 14	Rawlins Suzanna Etheridge	Elizabeth
228-1	Smith David Carline	Hatcher William
226-1	Stout Kimberly Jane Purifoy	Andrews Lt. Col William
226-2	Stout Kimberly Jane Purifoy	Andrews Susanna
226-3	Stout Kimberly Jane Purifoy	Tison John
226-4	Stout Kimberly Jane Purifoy	Tison Mathias

Virginia Voices, December 2023. Compiled by Paul Walden

Please forward corrections to: paulwalden@live.com