

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA
IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA TOWN COMMITTEE FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022

ATTENDANCE: 100

CALL TO ORDER

Atlanta Town Chair, Mrs. Joseph Very Quarles III (Nancy) called the meeting to order at 10am. Mrs. Helen Funk McSwain (Helen) led us in The Lord's Prayer and in reciting the Salute to the Flag. The Salute was followed by the singing of the National Anthem by Mrs. Bruce Patrick Lindsay (Dana) and Mrs. James Michael Edenfield (Page).

ARTICLE II OF THE DAMES' CONSTITUTION

Mrs. Hugh Buchanan Gage, Jr. (Alice) read Article II of the Dames' Constitution.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Mrs. William Jackson Tribble (Nanky) stated that the Minutes of the Membership Meeting held on May 18, 2022 were approved by the Executive Committee on October 5, 2022. Nanky made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes. The motion was seconded and approved. A second motion was made to approve the Minutes of the May 18, 2022 Membership Meeting. It was seconded and passed. The Minutes of the May 18, 2022 Meeting will be marked as approved and will be dated and signed by the Recording Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. William Ronald Hinson (Lisa) stated that on October 6, 2022 the Executive Committee approved the budget for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023. Therefore, it will be filed as presented. The budget assumes normal annual activity.

The Bank and investment balance is \$110,604.31. Total Donor restricted funds balance is \$36,123.81 and the Board restricted funds total \$2,000.00 (for the next State meeting the Atlanta Town Committee hosts). Net operating account balance is \$72,480.50.

We have donor funds to cover our Oakland Cemetery annual donation which will be made in December, 2022. We will match our State Grant of \$1,800.00 and give Oakland \$3,600.00.

As well, Atlanta Dames have generously contributed to the Vet dog initiative and our current balance for that project is \$2,920.00.

Finally, our annual commitment for the National Historic Homes: Andrew Low House, Dumbarton House, Gunston Hall and Sulgrave Manor, as well as the Indian Nurse Scholarship Program (a total of \$3000.00) will be made in January.

ASSISTANT TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Ben Lacy O'Callaghan, Jr., (Penny)

Penny reported dues collected in the amount of \$27,440.00 from 343 Dames, Late fees collected from 9 Dames were \$530.00, convenience fees totaled \$414.00. Our total donations of \$13,575.00 included \$2,710.00 to Oakland Cemetery, \$870.00 to Lamar, \$2,850.00 to Patriots Camp, \$4,215.00 to Share, \$2,270.00 to the Vet Dog program and \$660.00 to the Werner Fund.

MEMBERSHIP

Nancy reported that we have 386 members which includes regular members and all other subcategories of members. Nancy introduced our newest members, Mrs. Patricia Claudia Lander and Ms. Julia Marguerite Peele. The Atlanta Town Committee dropped 2 members for non-payment of dues. Nancy also reported that we have not had any resignations.

NECROLOGY REPORT

Nancy reported on behalf of Mrs. Brooke Reeve III, (Mandy), that we sadly have had 4 deaths: Mrs. Robin Benjamin Page, Mrs. Daniel Ferrell Rex, Mrs. George Conley Ingram III and Mrs. Celetta Randolph Jones. She then read Resolutions on these ladies, where a motion was made that these Resolutions be mailed to the families and "spread among the Minutes". Nancy gave a short prayer to remember these 4 Dames.

TOWN CHAIR'S REPORT

Nancy reported that the July 2022 Patriot's Camp, led by Mrs. James Twyman Wayt (Chrissie) and Mrs. John Baxter Gillespie (Vicki) was a huge success. 13 young people attended the camp. Nancy expressed her Thanks for Chrissie and Vicki for their tireless efforts. Unfortunately, Patriot's Camp did not win the Lamar award, but nominations for this award will continue.

Regarding Dues Collection, Nancy said most of our Dames paid in a timely manner and thought that being able to pay online with PayPal was a huge help. She thanked Mrs. George Robert Lindley Jr. (Susan) for getting PayPal set up.

Nancy encouraged all the Dames to continue to support the projects listed in the Treasurer's report. It is part of our obligation as a Dame to financially support our projects. The Atlanta Dames have been quite generous over the years, which is appreciated.

Georgia Dames Day is celebrated every year on February 26, the day in 1894, that our Georgia Charter was granted. Nancy believes the State Headquarters in Savannah will organize a fun celebration.

Nancy congratulated three Dames: Mrs. Clarence Ferrell Nolan III (Marian), Mrs. Frank Marshall Binford Sr. (Eleanor) and Mrs. Robert Keith Shuler (Sarah) for becoming Honorary Dames, signifying 40 years of membership in the Atlanta Town Committee.

Nancy was delighted to introduce our Guest Speaker, Mr. Harry Robertson, a highly respected expert in the field of silver.

Harry spoke on the History of silver giving an overview of its origin, the composition of silver and copper as to how the percentages of each give strength and value to pieces of silver. It was quite informative.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HISTORIC OAKLAND: Vicki Gillespie reported for Mrs. John Franklin Walker, Jr. (Kathy Chapman) that the Celebration for the Day of the Dead will be held on November 6th in Oakland Cemetery.

The Atlanta Town Committee will match the funds to a State Grant that was awarded to Oakland Cemetery this year.

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

Mrs. Frank Bledsoe Bazzel (Barbara) began her report with "History matters", she said that books are the bridges to history's future. "History Matters" is the State of Georgia's Book Group which was started by Lyn Hunt, Georgia's Historical Activities Chairman. She has created a list of Historical books, one of which is "American Eden, a biography of David Hosack" by Victoria Johnson. Barbara attended a Zoom presentation on this book, given by the author. On February 26th at 5:00pm Lyn Hunt will have a new presentation on the book, "Seeking Eden, A collection of Georgia's Historical Gardens" by Staci Catron and Mary Ann Eaddy, which features the Andrew Low House. Barbara was very enthusiastic about this Book Group run by Lyn Hunt and encouraged all to become involved.

GUNSTON HALL

Mrs. Joseph Maurice Spang (Mimi) reported that Gunston Hall is bustling with many activities and events, a few which include Hearth Cooking workshops for adults and children, Observation of Revolutionary War Day, Nov. 5th, 2022. The Boxwoods which we support continue to thrive. Many other events are held there during the year. Cocktails in the Garden, to celebrate Gunston Hall will be held over Zoom, today November 3rd.

BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

Mrs. Franklin Howard Reese (Loulie) reported that on December 15th as we celebrate the 231st anniversary for the National Bill of Rights Day to Fly our American flag in remembrance of the importance of our Bill of Rights.

SULGRAVE MANOR

Mrs. Wesley Rhodes Vawter, III (Terry) reported on the ancestral home of George Washington, built in 1539 by Lawrence Washington, George's Washington's 5th great grandfather. Sulgrave Manor is now the longest, continuously supported Museum property by the NSCDA. Currently, the NSCDA and Great Britain jointly maintain Sulgrave Manor, one of "our" homes. In 2021-22 the State of Georgia Dames raised \$18,500.00 for Sulgrave Manor. As a Dame, you are an honored member of Sulgrave and entitled to a private tour.

PATRIOTIC SERVICE

Mrs. Joseph Collier Horton (Helen) Helen read a letter from Margaret Freeman, the chair of the National Patriotic Committee, informing us that “Dame” our vet dog was released from the program because she was “just too friendly and sociable”. She will be adopted by her puppy trainer, Alex, and we will have a new vet dog, also named Dame, once born.

Another project Helen discussed was the Congressional Seminar Essay Contest. The contest was offered to 37 students from 14 schools. The winners, sponsored by the Dames, are invited to attend the Washington Workshops Congressional Seminar in Washington, an educational program for them and a wonderful opportunity. We had the privilege to view a video from a winner who attends the Wesleyan school and attended the seminar this summer. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to participate and attend the seminar. Alex shared his excitement at being involved and what he learned throughout the experience.

DUMBARTON HOUSE

Mrs. Catherine Goodhart Henson (Cathy) announced Mrs. Hugh Buchanan Gage (Alice) is “OUR LADY OF DUMBARTON” the National representative for the Dumbarton House. Cathy shared that Alice mailed 1,600 letters to Dames asking for donations, giving 4 different ways one can donate. The Dumbarton House is the one property solely owned by the Dames. Cathy encouraged us to consider donating.

NEW BUSINESS

Nancy thanked Helen McSwain for organizing the Field Trip to Funk Heritage Museum at Reinhardt College. Helen encouraged us to complete the survey placed on our tables, in order to obtain information for future field trips.

Nancy then expressed many Thanks to “Our party ladies”; Mrs. John Gideon Morris (Christy), Mrs. John Trevor Woodhams (Jane) and Alice Gage. She also thanked Mrs. Lawrence Feidler (Buffie) for hosting 100 Dames in her home for the Fall 2022 Party.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

The Deadline for new candidate proposals is December 15, 2022, by 6pm.

The Candidates will be voted on at our January 26th, 2023, Winter meeting, where we must have a quorum to vote. Nancy informed us of the rules and protocol prior to proposing and endorsing a Candidate, which one can only do every 3 years.

Clipboards are being passed around for Volunteer Opportunities.

Nancy thanked our Hostess Chair, Mrs. James Edward Hanger, IV (Liz) and her team and finally to Mrs. Henry McKemie Wyche (Ellen Adair) and her team for arranging the meeting today. The tables and flowers were beautiful.

REMINDERS

Please send Nancy any articles of interest for the Newsletter.

New members please gather at the podium for pictures

White papers are in the back of the room, please pick those up.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanky Tribble

Recording Secretary