

ANNUAL FALL MEETING of the
DESCENDANTS of the SIGNERS
of the DECLARATION of
INDEPENDENCE, INC.

Frederick, Maryland
October 24 and 25, 1970

I. Meeting of the Board of Governors

The meeting was called to order by the President-General at 10:35 A.M. in the Francis Scott Key Hotel.

The following members were present: Franklin Bache Satterthwaite, John Morton Fultz, Jr., Agnes B. DeForest, Barbara M. Kalbfleisch, Marjorie Black Ward, Juliana T. Paca, Clinton B. Axford, Frederick C. Pyne, and Schuyler N. Pyne.

The Board voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting.

Registrar-General, Mrs. Kalbfleisch, presented a list of eleven new Seniors and three Juniors proposed for election. She also reported one resignation and five deaths. The Board elected the new members and accepted the one resignation. (The complete report appears in Attachment I.)

The count of members now stands as follows:

		<u>Seniors</u>	<u>Juniors</u>
5-16-70	On the Roll	544	228
10-24-70	Report - Deceased	5	
	- Resigned	1	
	- Dropped	11	
	- Reinstated	0	
	- Reclassified	+1	-1
	- New	10	3
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10-24-70	On the Roll	538	230

Since the Annual Congress in May, Mrs. Kalbfleisch said, she had written 31 letters and mailed out 15 applications requested on the replies to the questionnaire. One new member was enrolled, but 14 have not replied.

In commenting on Mrs. Kalbfleisch's fine work in securing new members, Mr. Satterthwaite suggested that it might be helpful to have the application procedure printed in the next issue of the D.S.D.I. Bulletin. Mrs. Kalbfleisch said she would try to give a write-up to Miss O'Connor, Editor of the Bulletin, in time for the January issue.

Mrs. Kalbfleisch

In the absence of the Treasurer-General, Mrs. Ward reported that Mr. Henry Bower had given \$500 in memory of his nephew, Lawrence Campbell Fuller, Jr., descendant of George Ross, who died 3/30/70. Mrs. Ward also read the following names of members to be dropped, being two years in arrears, under Article V, Section 4 of the Constitution:

1299	Martin Booth, Huntington Beach, Cal. - John Hart	5/65
1055	Dr. Schuyler Van R. Cammann, Philadelphia - Philip Livingston	3/52
1180	Mrs. John W. Clarke, Athens, Greece - Samuel Chase	10/58
1343	Mrs. Jeanne Braxton Ferguson, York, S.C. - Carter Braxton	5/65
1368	James Jameson, Rye, N.H. - Matthew Thornton	5/67

List of Members to be Dropped (Cont'd)

1385 Mrs. James J. Lattenzio - Benjamin Franklin 5/67 Harleysville, Pa.
 1125 Mrs. Henry N. F. Minich, Coral Gables, Fla. - George Ross 2/57
 817 Mrs. John R. Powell, Montgomery, Ala. - Carter Braxton 5/38
 446 Mrs. Frederick F. Scanlan, Utica, N.Y. - Robert Morris 5/28
 1332 Leonard C. Schwarz, Elkins Park, Pa. - John Hart 5/65
 910 Corbin Braxton Valentine, Jr., Richmond - Carter Braxton 10/46

The above were dropped by automatic action of the Board. Mr. Satterthwaite said he was preparing to write to these and other members dropped in recent years, in an effort to have them reinstated.

Mr. Satterthwaite

In the absence of Scholarship Committee Chairman, Dr. Downs, Mr. Fultz announced that the award had again been given to Miss Patricia (Candy) Goldrick of Tulsa, Oklahoma, descendant of John Hart, who is a graduate student at the University of Missouri.

With reference to the Scholarship Fund, Mr. Fultz said that the annual income was now well over \$700, while the award was set at \$400 in Article X of the Constitution. He moved that a supplemental award of \$200 be awarded for the 1971-72 academic year, thus bringing the total up to \$600 while leaving enough to cover administrative expenses. Mr. Axford seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous vote. The Secretary-General was directed to incorporate the new amount in the letter announcing the next competition.

Mr. Brodhead

Bicentennial Committee Chairman, Percy Goodsell was at home, recovering from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Mr. Satterthwaite reported that several artists were preparing sketches of the plaque proposed for the Capitol in Washington.

Reporting on the Society's participation in the University of Pennsylvania Hospital Antiques Show, to be given in Philadelphia April 19 through 24, 1971, Mr. Fultz said that he had appointed Mrs. Joseph B. Hauck to be our Coordinator to work with the Show Committee. He said our members had offered many items but that furniture was still needed. Those wishing to loan pieces of furniture were asked to contact Mrs. Hauck at once.

President-General Satterthwaite gave a complete report of the findings of the Questionnaire. He was gratified to receive 35% response, which is considered above average for surveys of this kind. This project takes on added importance in view of the fact that over one half of our membership is new in the last ten years. This is one way to find what changes might be needed from the activities which have carried us through the first half century of our organization's history.

Analysis of the questionnaire returns, Mr. Satterthwaite said, led him to believe that standing committees should be formed in six functional areas, covering the broad spectrum of the interests of our members.

1. Historical and Biographical Committee, to disseminate information about the lives of the Signers and bibliographies of recommended reading on the subject.
2. Publicity Committee, to publish the Bulletin and other news of activities. Three or four issues per year.

3. Commemorative Events Committee, to cooperate with other patriotic societies in organizing public ceremonies.
4. Landmarks Committee, to inventory homes of the Signers, monuments and other landmarks and foster interest in their preservation.
5. Scholarship Committee, to publicize annual competitions and select the winners.
6. Ecology Committee, to study ways in which our Society might act to help in the preservation of our heritage of natural resources.

There appeared to be general acceptance of the above fields of activity with the exception of Ecology, which some felt to be outside our field of interest as defined by our Constitution. There was some discussion of the fear that we would be led into political action, which is not our intention. It was suggested that, since a number of young members had expressed definite interest in Ecology, we might have those interested study the matter and tell the Board what action, short of involvement in politics, we might undertake as a Society. The matter was tabled until the next meeting of the Board.

Mr. Satterthwaite also proposed that terms of office be limited, in order to provide opportunities to more members for involvement in the affairs of the Society. Reaction to this was mixed, some members feeling that it was difficult enough to find persons willing and able to cope with the work of key positions such as Registrar, Treasurer and Secretary. With regard to the Governors, who are appointed by the incoming administration at the end of each Annual Congress, it was felt that advance preparation was needed so as to determine that prospective appointees were willing to serve.

Referring to the standing committees, Mr. Axford suggested that the newly appointed chairmen be notified in writing that their term of office was for one year.

Discussion of plans for the 1971 Winter Meeting led to a proposal for a February meeting in the South. Mrs. DeForest extended an invitation for a week end in South Carolina, either Beaufort or Charleston. It was suggested that the New York meeting, usually held in February, could be postponed to the Fall; however, we have an invitation from the Virginia Society to go to Staunton at that time. The Board asked the President-General to resolve this problem and advise the Secretary-General of the outcome by the first of December.

Mr. Satterthwaite

Mr. Fultz presented to the Board on behalf of Mrs. Andrew Kidd, descendant of Francis Lewis; a Miniature of the Signer; a ring made from the Seal of the Governor of New York who was 'Morgan Lewis, Francis' son; documents and other related items. The Board accepted these gifts with great appreciation and asked the President-General to loan the Miniature and the Ring for permanent exhibit in the Museum of the City of New York. Mr. Axford was asked to study the restoral of the documents and make a recommendation at the next Board Meeting. Mr. Fultz was directed to write an official letter of acceptance and thanks to Mrs. Kidd.

Mr. Satterthwaite
Mr. Axford
Mr. Fultz

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 P.M.