



— SOUTH CAROLINA —

Entrusted With History's Future

**The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America
in the State of South Carolina
Historian's Report
2019-2020**

President Mrs. Richard Ward Mundy reported the year began with a wonderful celebration hosted by the Pee Dee Town Committee in Florence. Attendees were treated to a lovely tour at the home and gardens of Frances and Marion Swink and a special Pee Dee supper prior to the Annual Meeting and luncheon. The presentation of the colors featured a new American Flag given by the Greenville Town Committee. Our speakers were Colonial Council Executive Director Alan Stello and Catherine Nuzum, Curator of Special Projects of NSCDA. Of special note, the membership approved a bylaw change allowing the appointment of a President-Elect for a one-year term as needed. Immediately after that, the 2019-2020 Slate was approved, which included our very first President-Elect, Angelyn Bridges.

Other firsts included: A Summer publication of the Palmetto Post which was devoted to Town Committee news (this extra issue was made possible by our transfer to almost completely digital publications), the handbook was compiled and emailed to all members, and the Powder Magazine joined Great American Treasures. This new national museum alliance unites Dames' properties, collections and gardens to share America's early history collectively.

In September, a group of current and former Board members and staff met in Florence to participate in a strategic planning workshop facilitated by Karen Daly, Executive Director of NSCDA. Fleshing out a finished strategic plan will be a goal for 2020-2021.

The Columbia Town Committee continues their tradition of hosting the October General Meeting. Ben Zeigler and his talk about Francis Marion drew an unprecedented crowd. Also, in October President Mary Mundy and President-Elect Angelyn Bridges attended the National Board Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The Christmas Luncheon was once again held in honor of our new members and Golden Girls. The Lowcountry Town Committee, under the capable leadership of Anne Smith, hosted a wonderful meeting-free event. The highlight of the event was the recognition of two outstanding Dames as the newest members of the Roll of Honor – Caroline Dargan and Renee Marshall.

The Colonial Council continued to provide educational programming and engage Town Committees in meaningful projects. Patriotic Service and Historical Activities brought new levels of enthusiasm to our members with oral histories and History Day.

Thanking everyone for the opportunity she has had to serve as President for the past six years, Mrs. Mundy said, "You all have been generous in your praise and kind words, but the credit needs to go to all of the wonderful Dames who have helped along the way. I have never served

with such a congenial and dedicated group of women. Every minute has been a true pleasure. I am delighted to turn the reins over to Angelyn Bridges, who I have no doubt will serve you better than I in every way.”

As **First Vice President**, Mrs. Samuel Jackson Galloway, Jr. performed any duties that were designated to her by the President of the Board of Managers. She served as the Chairman of the Committee on By-laws and as Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee. She also oriented the new Board members in the procedure for voting for new members and presented guidelines for new Town Committee chairmen to assist their members with proposals.

Two Standing Rule and three By-law changes were approved by the Board and presented to the general membership for a vote. The Standing Rule changes were concerned with duties of Nominating if a vacancy occurs. By-law changes reflected the addition of a President-Elect position, an increased number of proposals for membership by members of the Society and giving the option of adding one member to the Board of Managers if needed.

The By-laws Standing Rules are continually proofed, updated and posted on the NSCDA-SC website, giving members access to the most current and up-to-date version.

Second Vice-President Mrs. Joseph Kenneth Germain, Jr. welcomed all new members -- transfers, reinstatements and courtesy--to the South Carolina Society. She wrote notes and called all of them. Each new member also received a copy of the Member Orientation Manual and some instructions to access our webpage.

Mrs. Germain attended a wonderful event at The Powder Magazine with Dames and new members the night before the Christmas Luncheon. The reception and lunch were held in honor of all new members. There were no new Golden Girls to announce in 2019.

Third Vice President, Mrs. Richard Huguenin Coen, reports that the office is running very smoothly thanks to our wonderful office manager, Abby Aguilar. The big project Abby has been working on is digitizing the office files. There are 14 large file drawers, and she is on number 10!

Abby has been assisting board members with various projects they are working on and she encourages all board members to reach out to her for assistance. She also finished up the annual statements (printing, stuffing and mailing 596 statements), finalized the dues statement template and sent out all dues statements in early February. She has also been busy working on the Board Manual, Annual Reports, Historians' Report, and the April meeting.

Mrs. James William Hamilton, **Fourth Vice President for Finance**, reported that NSCDA-SC's diversified portfolio is governed by a moderate and balanced Investment Policy Statement. Fixed income accounts for 28%-45% equities, alternative investments including real estate 0%-8%, and commodities 0%-6%. Our four investment funds are managed by Bulldog Consulting at Stifel, Nicolaus Company, Incorporated in Charleston.

Due to the economic crisis brought on by the Coronavirus, our invested assets had a market return of -11.34% for the Fiscal Year April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020. Happily, we received

donations accompanying dues checks as well as memorial and honorarium gifts. Our real estate and liquid assets are protected by appropriate property and historic replacement cost insurance for our Powder Magazine/Dames House property.

Treasurer, Mrs. Julian V. Brandt III, reported that NSCDA-SC had a very good financial year. The State and Colonial Council/Powder Magazine had income that exceeded expenses. Our membership increased and we tried to keep expenses down. Thank you to our members who donated with their dues, memorials and honorariums and who purchased our South Carolina scarves and wraps. And thank you to Bet Hamilton, Jean Hood and all the Town Committee treasurers for their hard work.

As **Assistant Treasurer**, the main duty of Mrs. Robert Holmes Hood, Jr. was to collect and process dues for the Society and the Town Committees. Approximately 1,040 dues notices were mailed in February of 2019 and additional notices were sent in April and October. Phone calls, emails and certified letters were sent to all members who had not paid their dues. All current members have paid dues for 2019. Unfortunately, ten members were dropped from membership on December 31, 2019. In January of 2020 thank-you letters were sent to all members who had generously made donations in 2019. Approximately 1,100 dues notices for 2020 were mailed in February 2020.

The responsibility of Mrs. Hart Kent, **Corresponding Secretary**, is to oversee all printed and digital membership publications.

The contents of the handbook were updated and published on the NSCDA-SC website (www.nscda-sc.org). A link to a printable version was emailed to the entire membership in September. Those members without email were given the opportunity to have a printed copy mailed to them. Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 issues of the Palmetto Post were published in a digital format and emailed to the membership. Printed copies were mailed to those members without internet capabilities. This change in distribution was made to save resources and keep material updated in a timelier manner.

A postcard invitation to the October General Membership Meeting was mailed to all members in September. The website was updated on an ongoing basis.

Mrs. James R. Glenn, **Recording Secretary**, kept accurate minutes of all Board of Managers and General Society meetings. A copy of the minutes was given to the President within two weeks of the meetings and distributed to each Board member. Signed, corrected and approved minutes were properly filed at Headquarters.

As of January 1, 2020, our state membership totaled 1,071--a decrease over last year of two members, reported **Registrar** Mrs. Gaillard T. Dotterer, Jr.

Our verifying Genealogist, Mary Jane Stallworth and researcher, Renee Marshall, are a big help to proposed members.

Our Society will vote on new members at our May meeting and we will send another membership report to the National Registrar on June 1, 2020.

According to Mrs. Timothy William Bouch, **Assistant Registrar**, the Board of Managers voted on new members in May and November 2019. Eighteen candidates were invited to submit their papers for membership in May and twelve candidates were invited to submit their papers in November.

Appropriate letters were written to all proposed and invitation packets were sent to the newly approved candidates. Throughout the year, proposal blanks were issued upon request.

In the past year **Registrar for Associate States** Mrs. Daniel Bowman White reports that candidates from the following Associate States have been admitted into the NSCDA: Alabama - 4, Florida - 1, Kentucky - 1, Michigan - 1, and Texas - 1.

After consulting with our president, Mary Mundy, **Board Arrangements Chair**, Ms. Emilie Bregy Guignard, arranged for the State Board meeting in the months of May, November, February, March and the October General meeting. These meetings were all held at Forest Lake Country Club in Columbia with a Dutch treat lunch. She also had the responsibility of keeping the Board name tags up to date.

Mrs. Henry Wayne Unger, Jr., Chairman, and The **Collections** Committee, are in the process of reviewing the inventory housed in The Powder Magazine, the Old Exchange Building, the Old Slave Mart Museum, and the Colonial Dames House. The committee is deleting items from the inventory approved for deaccessioning and a deed of gift has been completed.

The approved gifts (documents and letters) to the South Carolina Historical Society have been completed.

The committee is working with the director of the Old Exchange Building and the Old Exchange Building Commission on the deed of gift for the items approved for deaccessioning by the Board of Managers at the December 2018 meeting.

As the Director of the Old Exchange Building would like to retain more items than approved by the Board of Managers, the committee is working with the director to compile a list of items to present to the Board of Managers for approval.

The committee is researching the proper moving of two textile items to Sumter.

Mrs. Steven Michael Armato, **Historical Activities Chair**, reported that as in previous years our most successful projects involved working together with other like-minded groups and institutions to achieve our common goals of preservation and education.

In 2019, all Town Committee Historical Activities chairmen, as well as the State Board, were sent updated job descriptions and reminded of our ongoing National Historical Activities Projects. The representatives were encouraged to bring these projects to the attention of their

Town Committee members and offer to assist anyone desiring to participate.

An article about the Smithsonian's Inventory of American Painting was written for the spring 2019 "Palmetto Post." Three oil portraits were identified for inclusion in the survey and will be submitted in spring 2020.

NSCDA-SC supports National History Day in South Carolina. In 2019 our Society awarded two scholarships of \$150 each to cover the registration fees for two South Carolina finalists invited to attend the national competition in Maryland. Many of our Town Committees have interesting and worthy projects. Some are older and some were new in 2019. They include the Colonial Charleston Summer Institute, Carolina Day at the Tamassee School, the Mary Boykin Chestnut Exhibit and the "March to Fort Congaree."

The **Museum Properties** Committee, chaired by Mrs. James Gilbert Baldwin, Jr., was responsible for the South Carolina Society's two historic properties located in Charleston - one being The Powder Magazine (completed by 1713) and the other known as the Colonial Dames House (circa 1840) which serves as the NSCDA-SC Headquarters. Further responsibilities included oversight of the NSCDA-SC Colonial Council and our Collection objects currently in four locations.

In its second year, NSCDA-SC Colonial Council under the able leadership of Chairman Frances Ford and Alan Stello, Executive Director of Programming, successfully initiated programs with a focus on colonial history at The Powder Magazine and across South Carolina. During the year 13,492 visitors were welcomed to our 900 square-foot museum and 8,008 people participated in the Colonial Council's 122 museum and outreach programs.

Proceeds of \$300,000 from the sale of the Stewart-Parker House in Georgetown were placed in the Museum Properties Account at Stifel Investments at the direction of the NSCDA-SC Finance Committee.

We are pleased that as a Great American Treasures member The Powder Magazine will now be gaining national support and exposure. The South Carolina Society is also proud that Mary Mundy currently serves as the Museum Alliance Vice-Chairman for Region III and Connie Baldwin is on the committee for the Women in Preservation Symposium being co-sponsored by the NSCDA and the Smithsonian in October 2020.

This past year the **Colonial Council** under the guidance of Chairman Mrs. Francis Cordes Ford, III was positive as our mission of education expanded to the entire state with Executive Director of Programming, Alan Stello, helping to lead each Town Committee towards important initiatives within their regions.

The Columbia Town Committee supported and participated in the First March to Fort Congaree. Other Town Committees worked towards laying the foundation for great events for 2020; such as, Lowcountry support of the Colonial Institute for teachers, Pee Dee Revolutionary War program day, Spartanburg and Greenville support and promotion of the Tamassee Schools Patriot Day and future programming in Pee Dee and Georgetown focused on Francis Marion.

The Powder Magazine welcomed 13,492 regular visitors and held 122 programs with 8,008 attendees. Income of \$137,710.71 was derived from programs, visitation, gift shop and the donation box. The financial support from our own NSCDA-SC members enabled Colonial Council programs to thrive at The Powder Magazine and throughout the State. The staff and volunteers who supported our historic property and the educational outreach were key to Colonial Council success.

Mrs. Eugene Dewey Foxworth, III, **Dames House Chair**, shared progress on improvements to our property. She reported that the South Carolina Headquarters at 81 Cumberland Street, Charleston, is a gem; however, it continues to need repairs and upkeep. The main projects this past year involved painting, brickwork and irrigation for the garden. We appreciate owning this special place and work hard to keep it beautiful and functional.

As **Young Dames Chair**, Mrs. Gilbert Tennent Powers, III, attended State Board meetings and tried to create enthusiasm among our long-time Dames for our newer and younger members. Her goal was to make sure that everyone understands the importance of Young Dames, as they are the future of our society. It is hoped in the future that each Town Committee will plan a Young Dames event, as Low Country did this past fall. It is important they get to know each other so they will look forward to attending meetings when they are able.

Under the leadership of Ms. Mary P. Weston, the **Scholarships** Committee oversaw and reviewed all scholarships by the State Society and explored expansion opportunities. The Committee included representation from the Finance Committee and Patriotic Service.

Teaching of History scholarships were awarded to students at Converse College, College of Charleston and Winthrop University in the amount of \$2,000 each. In addition, the Society provided funding of \$1,500 for interns at The Powder Magazine, \$500 for training support for *Why America is Free*, \$300 to the American Indian Nurse scholarship, and \$1,600 to the winner of the Congressional Essay contest. In addition, South Carolina had the opportunity to award the District 8 Scholarship for Region III. This \$2,000 award goes annually to a graduate student in history.

Supporting our veterans became a focus and \$1,000 each was given to Upstate Warriors Solutions and Vets on Deck.

Mrs. John Frampton Maybank, **Parliamentarian**, attended the meetings of the Board of Managers, gave advice about the wording and interpretation of bylaws as needed and was available to give advice about questions of parliamentary procedure. She also assisted in tallying ballots needed for voting and helped tally the ballots for the election of new members.

As **Patriotic Service Chair**, Marianna Thompson MacIntyre worked with Town Committee representatives through education to promote patriotism and American heritage and to stimulate a love of American history. All six Town Committees sponsored projects to successfully meet this goal.

The Carolina Day Parade is always held in Charleston to commemorate the patriots' win at the

Battle of Sullivan's Island in June of 1776. A troop of Dames, family members and friends from the Town Committees joined together to participate.

Six Dames, including Lowcountry Town Committee Chairman Anne Smith, attended a Naturalization Ceremony. Copies of the Bill of Right and Free Family Admission Stickers to The Powder Magazine were handed out.

NSCDA-SC Dames submitted the winning title for the 2020 Washington Workshop Essay Contest. This year three essays were submitted to the contest, with one being sent to National.

The Patriotic Service Committee worked and collaborated with many organizations this past year. One of those being "in house" partnership with Historical Activities. That project involved Veterans' History for the Library of Congress and the recording of veterans giving their wartime experiences.

NSCDA is second only to the National Park Service in number of museums and preservation projects. We as a Society help with more than 80 properties nationwide.

The true spirit of patriotism through education and worthy projects was accomplished in 2019-2020.

According to Mrs. Evans P. Holland, Jr., **Special Projects Chairman**, her position's focus was to assist in any special projects the State and Town Committees were interested in pursuing. Currently, the central point has been encouraging, organizing and implementing educational and entertaining programs and presentations for the Town Committees to include in their areas.

One particular project was working with the Colonial Council on various ideas and suggestions through the assistance of Alan Stello of The Powder Magazine.

Why America Is Free Chairman Mrs. Benjamin Walter Taylor, Jr. proudly shared that since the WAIF curriculum was first introduced in 2006 approximately 13,000 South Carolina students have been through the program. Schools in 14 additional states continue to provide their students with this extraordinary learning experience.

Values Through, Inc. (VTH), the non-profit parent corporation of the WAIF curriculum has been developing a new, visually stunning state of the art, robust website that will better serve educational goals of WAIF. A Teacher Training Series is the next critical step for the growth of WAIF. This online training will allow all principals, teachers and volunteers involved to receive training since the on-demand method is accessible anytime, anywhere. The Training Series will be interactive with certain portions of it creating powerful learning experiences for students and well as for teachers.

Monitoring the strength and progress of schools currently using WAIF continues through relationships made between Town Committee Representatives and the local teachers.

All six **Town Committees** met throughout the year with a variety of programs and activities that highlighted our mission. They were chaired by: COLUMBIA - Mrs. Stephen Mark Cunningham, GEORGETOWN - Mrs. Robert Samuel Stokes, GREENVILLE - Mrs. Joe Butler Pearce, LOWCOUNTRY - Mrs. Whitmarsh Seabrook Smith, III, PEE DEE - Mrs. Richard Lawson Walker and SPARTANBURG - Mrs. Halis Alkis.

Mrs. Herbert Laurence Fritz, Jr., **Lady of Dumbarton House**, was happy to share the news that South Carolina Dames increased giving to Dumbarton and unrestricted National gifts by 28% in 2019 over 2018, thus demonstrating our intention to support the mission and headquarters of the NSCDA. These gifts also enable Dumbarton House to receive the necessary grants to keep it viable.

A year-round calendar for Dumbarton House includes exhibitions, concerts, tastings, outdoor films, theatre performances, lectures, youth programs and community events.

According to **SC Regent for Gunston Hall**, Mrs. Jan Hendrik Postma, Jr., Gunston Hall had an extraordinary year in 2019. The renovated Visitor's Center opened in June with a grand celebration, "Revolutionary Rights," the new permanent exhibit is a documentation of George Mason's vision for our country and the rights of the individuals. In September Gunston was awarded a grant of \$244,689.00 by The Federal Institute of Museum and Science Services.

The most exciting event for summer 2020 will be the opening of the Restoration Garden. This one-acre riverside garden will be a horticultural masterpiece which will provide insight into Mason's intellect and dedication to historic preservation, education and patriotic service. Gunston Hall is becoming a center of learning and engagement for all audiences.

Associate Trustee for Sulgrave Manor, Mrs. Madison Baker Wyche III, reported that 2019 was an exciting year for Sulgrave Manor. Phase I restoration of the exterior, which was funded by the Friends of Sulgrave Manor, is now complete. The second phase of the restoration, focusing on the interior, has begun and we hope it will be finished in Spring 2020.

Mrs. Wyche attended the Sulgrave Annual Meeting in Washington DC in October of 2019. The meetings were held in NSCDA Headquarters, our lovely Dumbarton House. Attendees traveled from across the U.S. to share ideas and learn about the renovations taking place at Sulgrave Manor, as well as the exciting new educational programs that the Manor is offering.

Efforts are currently underway to encourage our members to generously remember Sulgrave Manor in their charitable gifts in 2020.

Historian Mrs. Timothy George Dargan prepared the Historian's Report, which is a summary of the NSCDA-SC activities for the year. The abbreviation of the Annual Report (distributed each April at the Annual Meeting) required extensive editing to obtain a maximum length of five or six pages.

The Historian's Report is posted on the State Society website and is sent to the National Board to be shared with other societies.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Timothy George Dargan, Historian