

MINUTES | 134th ANNUAL MEETING | APRIL 4, 2019

The 134th Annual Meeting of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina was held at 4:30 p.m. in Founders Hall at Charles Towne Landing, 1500 Old Towne Road, Charleston, South Carolina, on Thursday, April 4, 2019. A collation was catered from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., with the business meeting called to order by President John E. Huguley, Jr. at 5:30 p.m. The Reverend Doctor W. Thomas Guerry offered the invocation as well as prayers of thanks for the lives of those members who had died since our last meeting.

President Huguley welcomed all of the attendees and thanked them for their continuing support of the Society as well as their attendance today.

A motion to accept the minutes of last year's meeting was seconded and passed unanimously. Mr. Russell Guerard, Membership Committee Chair, offered the names of eighty new applicants from 2018 to the attendees. A motion to accept these new members was seconded and also passed unanimously.

Treasurer Hagood S. Morrison reported that the Society's finances were in excellent shape. He urged the members to continue their generous support of the work of the Society which is to enhance and increase knowledge and interest in all things Huguenot. A financial report is published herein.

Mrs. Margaret Garrett, Vice President, French Santee, announced that Miss Adelaide Videau Bates was awarded the Mary Mouzon Darby Scholarship. Miss Bates is majoring in Urban Studies at the College of Charleston and is a member of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina.

Past President Ford P. Menefee, acting in behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of nominees for 2019-2020 for the approval of the membership. They are as follows: President, John E. Huguley, Jr.; First Vice President, Charles B. Upshaw III; Secretary, Helga W. Billings; Treasurer, Hagood S. Morrison, and Chaplain, The Reverend Dr. W. Thomas Guerry. Vice Presidents: Orange Quarter, Randell C. Stoney, Jr.; Goose Creek, Jacob S. Barker; French Santee, Margaret W. Garrett; St. John's Berkeley, John B. Williams; New Bordeaux, John T. Hilton, Jr.; Purrysburg, J. Palmer Gaillard III; and Charleston, Russell B. Guerard. There being no nominations from the floor, the slate was accepted by acclamation.

President John Huguley reported the deaths of former board member and gifted historian Dianne W. Ressler, as well as of our faithful long-time Registrar, Dorothy Huff. He also announced, with regret, the retirement of Board Member Jane B. Ball, thanking her for her service to the Society over the years. He also thanked the staff for their hard work: Director, Mrs. Marshall; Researcher, Ms. Cheves Leland, and

Registrar, Mrs. Hyman. He informed the membership that a grant from the Samuel Freeman Charitable Trust has allowed us to hire a part-time intern to assist with communications projects. An additional restricted gift will allow us to increase our digital outreach and branding. He also asked the membership for help in recruiting new members. He concluded his remarks with an outline of the itinerary of the South Carolina Historical Society's trip to New Paltz, a World Heritage Huguenot site in New York.

President Huguley then introduced our speaker for the annual Strang Lecture, Dr. Phyllis G. Jestice, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of the Department of History at the College of Charleston. Dr. Jestice received a Ph.D. and M.A. in History and Humanities from Stanford University and a B.A. in European History from the University of Puget Sound. Dr. Jestice's talk was titled "The War of the Three Henries: How the Huguenots Won Religious Freedom" and focused on how the military and diplomatic skills of the Huguenots prepared the way for Henri IV to issue the Edict of Nantes.

The meeting was closed with a benediction by Reverend Guerry and concluded at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Helga Wrenn Billings, Secretary