

The Colonial Dames of America
Board of Managers and Officers 2014-2015

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Patricia P. Bereday..... Verifying Genealogist
Maria A. DeringGenealogist
Michael S. Neill Genealogist

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Carmen Wong, *Clerical Staff*
Maureen Harvey and Patrick Alerte, *Maintenance Staff*

**125th Annual Meeting
The Colonial Dames of America**

Saturday, May 2 - Monday, May 4, 2015

M.P. Naud, Recording Secretary, reports:

The 125th Annual Meeting of The Colonial Dames of America began on Saturday, May 2, 2015. The Executive Council meeting was called to order in the Abigail Adams Smith Auditorium. President General, Sharon W. Vaino opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lord's Prayer. Mrs. Vaino welcomed the Chapter Presidents, Delegates, and Members of the Board of Managers and Committee Chairmen. The reading of the minutes of the Saturday, May 3, 2014 meeting was formally waived. Following the roll call, chapter reports were read. Eleven Chapters were represented:

- CHAPTER II, Philadelphia, PA
Lynn Klein President
- CHAPTER III, Washington, DC
Colonel Mary Lowe Mayhugh..... President
- CHAPTER V, San Francisco, CA
Susan Trau Johnson President
- CHAPTER VIII, Houston, TX
Evelyn Aucoin..... President
- CHAPTER X, Rome, ITALY
Sharrilyn Whiting..... President
- CHAPTER XI, London, England
Ellen Davidson Delegate
- CHAPTER XX, Los Angeles, CA
Margaret Wilson President
- CHAPTER XXII, Michigan
Carolyn Levin President
- CHAPTER XXIII, Virginia
Blair Lawrence President
- CHAPTER XXIV, Atlanta, GA
Helen Rogge..... President
- CHAPTER XXXI, South Carolina
Theresa Johnson President
- CHAPTER XXXV, Jacksonville, FL
Rebecca Lockhart..... Founding President

On Saturday evening, the President's Award for Excellence Dinner at the

River Club was highlighted by toasts to the winner of the eighteenth annual award. Helen H. Rogge, President of Chapter XXIV Atlanta accepted the award to aid in the restoration of a priceless collection of small hand-whittled toys called the “Moses Robinson Collection of Folk Art” of the Sandy Springs Heritage Museum. Chapter XXIV will use this award to hire a professional to assess for the conservation, preservation and restoration of this very important collection

Sunday morning, May 3rd, members enjoyed a private tour of Rockefeller Center. Later that afternoon President General Sharon Vaino welcomed guests to the Museum’s beautiful garden. The Sunday afternoon Garden Party, at the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden, was well attended with more than 100 members, delegates and guests. The Museum and its period rooms, as well as its Orientation Center which includes the model of the original carriage house, were open for viewing.

The 125th Annual Meeting of The Colonial Dames of America was called to order at 12:00p.m. Monday, May 4, 2015, at the Cosmopolitan Club. President General Sharon W. Vaino welcomed two Past President’s General to the luncheon meeting. Audrey A. Svensson (2006-2009) and Helen C. Evans (1997-2000).

Members representing chapters throughout the United States and abroad were in attendance. After the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was observed for those members included on the In Memoriam list for 2014-2015. A motion was made and approved to waive the reading of the minutes of the Monday, May 5, 2014, Annual Meeting. A motion was made to ratify the actions of the Board for the year.

Audrey A. Svensson, Past President General and Chairman of the Book Award Committee, introduced the winners of the 2015 Book Award. The 2015 Book Award winner is *Winnie Davis: Daughter of the Lost Cause,*” by Heath Hardage Lee, published by Potomac Books. A citation went to “*The Art Deco Murals of Hildreth Meiere,*” by Catherine Colman Brawer and Kathleen Murphy Skolnik, photography by Hildreth Meiere Dunn, published by Andrea Monfried Editions The Young Readers Award went to “*Benny Goodman & Teddy Wilson: Taking the Stage as the First Black-and-White Jazz Band in History,*” written Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James E. Ransome and published by Holiday House / New York.

The result of the election was approved. President General Sharon W. Vaino thanked Caroline McLain, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Proxies Evelyn C. Aucoin, Anne Farley, Blair Lawrence and Inspectors of Election Robin Dougherty and Marion Piro. It was announced that 443 proxy votes were counted, and the slate was approved as presented by Ms. McLain.

The winners of the Van Rensselaer Award for Distinguished Service were announced and presented with a certificate and beautiful enameled pin. This year’s winners are:

Parent Chapter	Sharon W. Vaino (Mrs. Jaan)
Chapter VIII Houston	Sarah Beth Leney (Mrs. Franklin J.)
Chapter XXIII Virginia	Charlotte Taylor Miller (Mrs. Andrew J.)
Chapter XXXI South Carolina	Theresa Hulsey Johnson (Mrs. Richard K.)
Chapter XXXIII Georgia Piedmont	Robin Redearn Towns (Mrs. Robert F.)
Chapter XXIV Atlanta, Georgia	Rose Elyea Bell (Mrs. John Inman Jr)

Finance Chair, Caroline McLain read the Treasurer's and Finance Committee reports. The reports of the Regular Committees of the Society and the Standing Committees of the Parent Chapter were presented. Museum Director Terri Daly presented the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden report.

President General Sharon W. Vaino then gave the following informative report to the members.

The 125th Annual Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, May 4, 2015.

Report of the President General

Monday, May 4, 2015

Sharon W. Vaino, President General, reports:

Past Presidents General, Members of the Board of Managers, Chapter Presidents, Distinguished Members, Book Award recipient Ms. Heath Hardage Lee, CDA and Museum staff, and honored Guests,

Warm greetings to all of you! I am pleased with robust attendance at our 125th Anniversary Annual Meeting Weekend events. We were graced with beautiful weather at our Garden Party. Our Communications Chair Sharri Whiting provided a choice audio-visual presentation at Saturday's 125th Anniversary Dinner, capturing the CDA's growth since 1890. Round table discussions this morning have been invigorating and informative.

Many thanks to the substantial number of you who volunteered to serve as Benefactors or Patrons for this Annual Meeting Weekend. Your names are printed in the program. Thanks also to CDA Executive Director Allison Coliskey and her staff, and to Museum Director Terry Daly and her staff, for coordinating the myriad details of the Annual Meeting Weekend. Once again we are fortunate to be able to include in your materials reprints of an article appearing in the upcoming summer issue of the *Social Register Observer*. This article, "The Colonial Dames of America Celebrates 125 Years," by Sharri Whiting, President of Chapter X – Rome, Italy, and by me, President General, describes exciting events within the CDA and its chapters.

Much has been accomplished in the past year. The Museum's 2014 Fall Benefit, chaired by First Vice-President Beverley Sherrid and Board member Mary Barnes, again exceeded records set in the previous year. Entitled "The Havemeyer Legacy," with long-time CDA member Eugenie Havemeyer as Honorary Chair, this Benefit featured a scintillating lecture and slides by Havemeyer family member Alice Cooney Frelinghuysen, or "Nonnie." Nonnie described this family's significant support of the arts. Lovely photos of this Benefit, which included both live and silent auction items, appear in the *Social Register Observer* article you have received.

Beverley Sherrid and Sharri Whiting also provided a beautiful upgraded CDA website with revised images and script, and a section for each chapter. To produce this website, they did substantial research in CDA files, and we are now beneficiaries of their research in the form of the lovely volume, *Pages in Azure and Gold*, just re-issued after its original publication in 1915, and available for purchase here today. This volume is not only a look back at the travels and experiences of two very privileged Dames of the Gilded Age, but also a reflection of a unique period in American history before World War I. You can receive the hard cover version of this book upon making a \$125 contribution to the CDA 125th Anniversary Project. The limited available hard copies of this volume are now down to the single digits. Soft cover copies of the book are also available.

As you may know, all CDA members are now automatically members of the Museum

without paying a separate fee. We rely on you more than ever to continue to support the Museum on a voluntary basis. The approximately 15% of our membership constituting the Parent Chapter cannot do this alone. Our new Museum Director Terri Daly, who succeeded Mary Anne Caton after Mary Anne's move with her husband to Nashville, Tennessee, has been doing a tremendous job. With assistance from Past President General Helen Evans and others, Terri has helped us to address persistent HVAC issues and put our 125th Anniversary Project in motion.

The 125th Anniversary Project is the repair and restoration of the balcony and front façade of our historic building, the eighth oldest in Manhattan, along with repair of related water damage. If you looked closely at this area at the Garden Party yesterday, you could see that it needs attention. We hope you will help us to raise the necessary funding shortly so that we may begin this construction while weather conditions are favorable.

We continue to emphasize participation by all of the CDA's chapters in our endeavors. The Society's Board of Managers contains the largest number of non-Parent chapter members permitted under our By-Laws (seven out of fifteen, or just under a majority). We benefit from the energy brought to our Board by women from many locations.

Since my term as President General began, my husband and I have visited all 37 of the CDA's chapters, including the Parent Chapter. A New Orleans chapter has just been approved by the Society's Board of Managers with the excellent work of our Liaison Committee Chair, Second Vice-President Brantley Knowles, Chapter XVII – Palm Beach, assisted by Board of Managers member Pegi Ivancevich of Chapter VIII – Houston. This chapter will become official once formalities have been completed. My husband and I plan to visit this chapter as well. Regional meetings chaired by Brantley Knowles have been a great success.

A new initiative this year was a tea held in Washington, D.C., celebrating the CDA's 125th Anniversary, chaired by Board of Managers member Charlotte Christian of Chapter XXIV - Atlanta. This event was planned to coincide with events of other hereditary lineage societies being held that week in Washington. We had a sold-out crowd of 60 attending this tea, and some chapters not able to be represented here at our Annual Meeting were able to connect with other Dames in Washington. I have also participated in events of other hereditary societies on behalf of the CDA, and brought CDA greetings.

This was the first year we awarded the Van Rensselaer Award, enabling chapters to recognize a member who has made outstanding contributions. This was an initiative undertaken by Brantley Knowles, and you have seen the results. Names of donors qualifying for the 1890 Society, those who have contributed \$1890 or more to the CDA and/or Museum within a fiscal year, appear in your program, along with names of chapters which have made special contributions to the CDA, listed on the Chapter Honor Roll.

I am greatly honored to have been chosen for a second consecutive three-year term as your President General. I think we have a wonderful base from which to move forward to significant accomplishments. Thanks for all your many contributions to our worthy cause!

Treasurer's and Finance Chair's Report

Monday, May 4, 2015

Jane H. Told, Treasurer, reports:

Treasurer Report. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015, the overall assets of The CDA increased by \$182,000. The principal causes of the increase were due to an improvement in our Investment Portfolio and capital improvements to the CDA headquarters and the Museum. Fortunately, most of the Museum capital costs were covered by insurance. Nonetheless, our aging physical plant continues to challenge our financial resources.

Due to the generosity of our membership, however, overall contributions for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015, to the Museum and the CDA was \$44,000 greater than the prior year. Thank you to everyone for your generosity as your contributions are critical to achieving our shared goals.

In conjunction with Audit Chair, Laurie Aldinger, we are working to further improve our internal accounting controls and processes, and with Evelyn Aucoin, Long-Term Planning Chair, in creating appropriate disaster recovery and document retention policies.

Caroline McLain, Finance Chair, reports:

Finance Committee. As of March 31, 2015, our fiscal year-end, the Portfolio was allocated 62% to equities, 30% to fixed income, 5% to fixed income alternatives and 3% to cash.

The overall return from January 1, 2013 to March 31, 2015 was 25%. The return over the fiscal year 2014-2015 was 8%. Despite these positive returns, the annual budget continues to be a challenge since we cannot prudently draw much more than 5% per annum from our Portfolio to be in compliance with the Prudent Management Act for non-profits.

The Finance Committee continues to be satisfied with Merrill Lynch's management of the Portfolio. Over the last year, in conjunction with Merrill Lynch, the members of the Finance Committee have interviewed representatives of all of the CDA's investments to discuss each's performance and strategy strategy. The only significant change made over the last year was transferring our fixed income allocation from PIMCO to Western Asset Management.

Mount Vernon Hotel Museum Report

Monday, May 4, 2015

Terri Daly, Museum Director, reports:

The Museum experienced changes, challenges, and accomplishments this past year, including a new director, a new boiler, new programs, and a record-breaking fundraiser.

Public Programs and Group Tours

Public Programs topped \$10,000 in net revenue, and Group Tours brought in \$5000. The Museum Murder Mystery program has been a key component to that success, selling out our four public sessions plus four private group tours. We have repeated that model with a Historic Pie-Making Workshop which also sold out its public program and now is booked for an upcoming group tour. Likewise, our Historic Tea Tasting sold out its public program and we will be taking it on the road to a senior center. We will continue to develop this programming model for both reach and revenue.

Promotion

The Museum has received amazing publicity this year. *The New York Times* featured the Museum in the “Two Good Reasons” column of the Metropolitan Section of the newspaper on Sunday, March 8th, and *Our Town* newspaper included an article on the front page of the December 25th edition about the Museum’s interpretation of Christmas in the 19th century.

Development

The Museum’s fall fundraiser in October honored the legendary collection of the Havemeyer family and celebrated the Museum’s 75th anniversary. The event, expertly co-chaired by Beverley Sherrid and Mary Barnes, generated over \$47,000 in gross revenue and \$39,000 net from ticket sales, donations, and auction proceeds.

Grants and foundation awards totaled \$44,250 for the year and included a substantial increase in our Department of Cultural Affairs award and a New York Council for the Humanities Project Grant for the upcoming garden exhibit. We are currently submitting proposals for grants to assist our collections preservation, education programs, and community outreach.

Education

For the '14-'15 academic year the Museum will welcome 92 classes from 35 schools. 26% of the schools were first time visitors to the Museum, and 54% brought more than one class this academic year.

In July we had a successful History Weeks program. The first week, for 9-12 year-olds, we had 25 children join us, and we reinstated the second week for 6-8 year-olds, welcoming 7 children.

Our 2014 Hearst Fellows spent June and July conducting original research and assisting with the History Weeks program. Liam researched 19th-century middle class leisure activities and Isabel focused on women’s lives in Jacksonian New York. Their research culminated with formal presentations at a public symposium on August 1st.

Collections

To address the needs of our collection, we have deaccessioned a number of objects that no longer fit with our interpretation. The proceeds of the first auction were used for the conservation of four period lamps. We are awaiting the second auction and hope to use those proceeds for the conservation of a Mahogany Empire Sideboard in order to arrange a long-term loan of that object from the New-York Historical Society to enhance the interpretation of the Lower Hall.

Boiler

On January 11, a sprinkler pipe under the historic kitchen broke in the Museum, flooding the boiler pit and requiring replacement of the boiler and the hot water heater. We were required to be closed to the public until the sprinkler system was restored, but amazingly we were able to complete the repairs and reopen on January 21, only ten days after the pipe break, and we welcomed a school group that day as well.

Conclusion

We recently completed the Museum’s ten-year strategic plan, guided by Evelyn Aucoin and the Museum workgroup. We are excited about the direction it provides for preservation of our historic building and advancing our goals for collection management, financial security, education programs, and community engagement.

Reports of the Committees of the Society

Audit Committee

Laurie C. Aldinger, Chair, reports:

Our independent audit and tax firm, Condon O'Meara, gave the CDA an unqualified clean opinion of our financial statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015. The firm has been retained for the audit of the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016.

Condon O'Meara prepared and filed the federal form 990, the New York State form CHAR500 and the affiliate chapters' 990-Ns (e postcard) for the 2014 tax year.

Condon O'Meara represented the CDA during a routine audit conducted by the IRS for the tax year ended March 31, 2013. The CDA staff and the audit committee assisted in coordinating and providing the paperwork requested for the audit.

We continue to be confident with our internal control structure including the work of our outside accountant, Eleanor Popolozio, as well the adherence to appropriate procedures for daily financial transactions by the staff of both the CDA and the Museum.

Book Award Committee

Audrey A. Svensson, Chair, reports:

2015 Book Award Program Winners, selected by the Book Award Committee 3/4/15

Book Award:

Winnie Davis: Daughter of the Lost Cause

Author: Heath Hardage Lee

Publisher: Potomac Books, Imprint of University of Nebraska Press

Citation:

The Art Deco Murals of Hildreth Meiere

Authors: Catherine Coleman Brawer and Kathleen Murphy Skolnik

Photographer: Hildreth Meiere Dunn

Publisher: Andrea Monfried Editions

Young Readers Citation

Benny Goodman & Teddy Wilson: Taking the Stage as the First Black-and-White Jazz Band in History

Author: Lesa Cline-Ransome

Illustrator: James E. Ransome

Publisher: Holiday House/New York

All of our winners are delighted to be so honored.

Heath Hardage Lee, author of "Winnie Davis: Daughter of the Lost Cause", has consented to Speak at the Annual Meeting.

By-Laws Committee

Carol M. Lynch, Chair, reports:

The activity of the By-Laws committee this year was to amend the Society's By-Laws so as to provide the Parent Chapter with the benefits of the Society's incorporated status. Earlier this year, President General Sharon Vaino advised the Committee that the Parent Chapter also needed the protection of incorporation status as it was an unincorporated entity. The Committee considered incorporating the Parent Chapter as a stand-alone entity like the other Chapters but decided against this course of action because there was no desire to have a separate Parent Chapter board of managers and separate Parent Chapter officers or audited financial statements. With the help of Venable, LLP, the Board of Managers of the Society amended the By-Laws of the Society to clarify that the Parent Chapter is a function of the Society. By making this clarification in the By-Laws, the Parent Chapter will benefit from the incorporation status of the Society. Many thanks to our President General and the Committee members

Claims Committee

Beverley W. Sherrid, Registrar General, reports:

This past year, the Claims Office approved **103** new members, giving us a total membership of **2010**, including **105 Members Emeritae**. Three members established a supplemental line, **16** documented new ancestor claims, three Daughter Dames activated their memberships, and **one** young girl became a Daughter Dame.

The Claims Committee established three new qualifying offices for membership this year. We deferred action on two additional offices pending further research.

You may find the Eligibility List on our new website under "About CDA," then click on the photograph of our insignia. An even faster way to get there is by clicking on the Alexander family portrait, part of the Home Page slide show.

I am sorry to tell you that our beloved Verifying Genealogist, Patricia Bereday, has not been well and is on leave. I know many you have worked with her and wish her a speedy recovery. Fortunately, we have an excellent certified genealogist, Maria Dering, a member of the Claims Committee, who has stepped seamlessly into this responsibility.

I commend to you Theresa Comer, who runs your Claims Office, fields your questions, soothes your worries, and ushers your papers through the membership process. I also thank the Claims Committee members for their dedication to the integrity of Colonial Dames genealogy.

Colour Guard and Patriotic Activities Committee

Parke Miller Johnson, Chair, reports:

Last May, I had the pleasure of assuming Ripley Hathaway's longstanding tenure as Chairman of the Color Guard Committee. Since that time, The Committee has participated in two standing activities. Flag Day parade, held in June, and sponsored by the Sons of the Revolution to commemorate the 1777 adoption of the United States flag. This annual march from City Hall to Fraunces Tavern was great fun with crowds applauding the various patriotic societies, representatives from the Armed forces and multitudes of marching New York City school children. In November CDA participated in Remembrance Sunday at St. Thomas's Church on Fifth Avenue. This lovely service to honors those who gave their lives and those who have served in the Armed Forces.

Communications Committee

Sharrilyn Whiting, Chair, reports:

The Communications Committee was established by the Board of Managers in July 2013. Activities undertaken since that time include the design and production of a digital newsletter, CDA1890, research and writing an article for The Social Register Observer, and the development of a redesigned CDA website, launched January 1, 2015 to coincide with the beginning of the 125th Anniversary year. The committee wishes to thank President Sharon Vaino for her vision and leadership during the past year.

Education and Scholarship Committee

Anne Farley, Chair, reports:

The Education and Scholarship Committee determines the recipients of scholarship funds budgeted by the CDA Board of Managers. For 2014/2015, \$17,100 has been awarded to the following institutions:

- \$7,100 to the Graduate Center of the City University of New York to support the research of two graduate students. One student is researching the significance of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Indians in the colonial period, and the other student is researching American female travelers in Paris during the years 1828-1848 and the development of female identity.
- \$5,000 to the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture at the College of William and Mary to fund a Fellowship in Historical Editing. The Institute publishes scholarly books and a quarterly journal. For 2015, this fellowship is being presented in memory of our late Education and Scholarship Committee Chairman Shirley Dixon-Miller.
- \$5,000 to Jamestown Rediscovery to support a Colonial Dames of America Fellow in Archaeology. The selected student will work under the supervision of archaeologists at Historic Jamestown.

The Committee is grateful for gifts designated for the Education and Scholarship Committee. Thank you for supporting the work of the Education and Scholarship Committee.

Events, Calendar and Hospitality Committee

Kathleen Elizabeth Springhorn, Chair, reports:

On behalf of the *Hospitality, Calendar & Events Committee*, I am happy to welcome and thank each of you for being here at our 2015 Annual Meeting and Luncheon today. We particularly thank our President General, Sharon Vaino, for making the arrangements that have worked so nicely today at the Cosmopolitan Club, as well as Allison Coliskey, Terry Comer, and Heather Welty, again, for all they do to arrange and manage the special events during our Annual Meeting weekends.

Our traditional events this year included our *Past Presidents General & Board of Managers Annual Fall Luncheon*, and our *Annual Holiday Tea Dance*.

Our *Past Presidents General & Board of Managers Annual Fall Luncheon* was held in the Tavern Room at the museum, a perfect setting to share collective experience and discuss issues important to CDA and MVHM&G strategic plans.

Our traditional *Annual Holiday Tea Dance* was held in our *Abigail Adams Smith Auditorium*, which was again transformed into a festive Ballroom setting with pine garlands, wreaths, and Christmas trees all reflecting in the elegant Palladian mirrors around the room. Dames and their guests socialized, danced to the Alex Donner Quartet, and enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, an abundance of desserts arranged on silver trays and cranberry glass cake plates, and holiday cheer. As always, our CDA Eggnog, made according to Florence Van Rensselaer's Recipe, was served from our crystal punch bowl (the recipe is on page 40 in our CDA Cookbook!) and proper tea was served from our silver tea service. The *Holiday Tea Dance* is a wonderful event, and all Dames are warmly invited to attend.

Please remember to consider our auditorium/ballroom as a beautiful and very adaptable venue for your private parties and entertaining, and to turn to our wonderful CDA Cookbook for entertaining, as gifts, or as a Chapter fundraiser. *Bon Appetit!* and *God Bless America!*

Garden and Grounds Committees

Brantley C.B. Knowles, Chair, reports:

The Mount Vernon Hotel Museum and garden was open in late May 2014 as a designated part of the annual City Gardens Club of New York Garden Tour. This prestigious tour bought MVHM and its garden to a new audience in New York. A special brochure was generated by museum professional staff indicating unique plants in the garden, and also included information about the museum and the CDA.

In the fall, plans were made by the Garden and Grounds Committee to have the garden at its very best for the 75th Anniversary of the museum and the upcoming 125th Anniversary of CDA. Extra garden contributions enabled the bulb order to be doubled. Other donations were designated for plantings and eight new planter boxes. A settlement was made to the museum by a neighboring building for damage to the gardens' ivy espaliers. With all of these enhancements, the garden will be magnificent for the May 2015 CDA Garden Party and 125th Anniversary.

**Liaison Committee for Special Initiatives:
Chapter Cultivation, Regional Meetings, Inter-Society Activities**

Brantley C. B. Knowles Chair, reports:

In July 2015, the Liaison Committee chairman, Brantley Knowles, and Committee member, Charlotte Christian, led a regional meeting graciously hosted by Chapter XXIV-Atlanta. With representation from Chapters in the Southeastern Region of CDA, including Chapter XXXIII-Georgia Piedmont, and Chapter VII-Nashville, over 25 Dames were in attendance. The Southeastern Region is approximately 15% of the entire CDA membership.

The Liaison Committee chairman presented a program, *The CDA: Our Place in History and Our Society's Museum* to a group who wished to form a New Orleans chapter of CDA. This newest chapter was approved as Chapter XXXVII-New Orleans at the April 2015 Board of Managers Meeting.

The CDA hopes to have regional meetings in Texas, the Midwest, the Upper Midwest, and the West. Please let me know if you are willing to host a one-day regional meeting.

Membership Committee

Heather W. Speas, Chair, reports:

The Membership Committee of The Colonial Dames of America has had a very productive year this year. The committee met regularly to discuss various ideas for membership recruitment, engagement, and retention. The Membership Committee hosted two Membership Evenings, in October and March, which were well attended by members, candidates, and prospective candidates.

As of May 4, 2015, there are 290 active members, 6 Emerita members, 7 Courtesy members, and 1 Daughter Dame in the Parent Chapter. There are currently 20 active candidates.

There were 7 deaths, 3 resignations, and two Daughter Dames were activated to Junior status.

The Parent Chapter welcomes 5 new members:

Lee Hunter Breedlove
(ancestor: John Armistead)

Mary Conley Downe
(ancestor: William Carpenter)

Samantha Graham
(ancestor: Augustine Washington)

Laura Breedlove Hans
(ancestor: John Armistead)

Lynn Broward McNamara

(ancestor: John Richmond)

Thank you to the Membership Committee and to Sharon Vaino, President General, for a wonderful year.

Library and Archives

Beverley W. Sherrid, Chair, reports:

The library and archives were roused from slumber this year by two exciting projects. First, our new website drew extensively on the archives for its fascinating presentation of historic preservation projects of the Colonial Dames. Martha Foley, the professional archivist who worked with our papers for several years, returned for two days to facilitate this effort.

In the course of developing the website, our Communications Committee Chair, Sharrri Whiting, discovered two original copies of *Pages in Azure and Gold*, a collection of letters between two Founding Dames, first published by the CDA in 1915. We decided to reissue the collection, enriched by period illustrations and a new cover design. Following a lightening fast production process, the book is available for sale this very day in both hard and soft cover editions. All proceeds will benefit the President General's 125th anniversary project of restoring the balcony and façade of the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum. We are especially grateful to Kathy Springhorn, who stepped forward with a donation to cover the printing costs.

Committee on Organizational Structure

Carol M. Lynch, Chair, reports:

The focus of the Committee on Organizational Structure this year was the incorporation of the Chapters and the protection of the Parent Chapter by the Society's incorporation status. Two years ago, the Committee determined that it would be in the best interests of the Chapters and the Parent Chapter for the Chapters to incorporate as stand-alone entities because incorporation of the Chapters would limit the liability of the members of the Chapters as well as the Parent Chapter's liability.

To date, the Committee has prepared incorporation documents for the twenty-seven Chapters that had expressed an interest in incorporating in Washington DC. Of those Chapters, twenty-four have been incorporated in Washington DC. We have never heard back from the following chapters:

Chapter VISHreveport, Louisiana
Chapter XVJackson, Mississippi – received regulations
Chapter XVIDes Moines, Iowa
Chapter XXLos Angeles, California
Chapter XXIXNorth Carolina
Chapter XXXVenice, Florida

In addition to incorporating Chapters, the By-Laws committee considered and recommended to the Board of Managers of the Society an amendment to the Society's By-Laws so as to provide the Parent Chapter with the benefits of the Society's incorporation status as previously described in the Annual Report of the By-Laws Committee.

We encourage those Chapters that have not yet submitted their Regulations to Venable, LLP to do so as soon as possible so that we can incorporate all the Chapters. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee.

Many thanks to our President General and other committee members.

Personnel Committee

M.P. Naud, Chair, reports:

Employee evaluations for the CDA Headquarters staff and Museum staff were prepared for both full-time and part-time employees and were discussed with the employees.

Over the past year there have been several staff changes and additions at the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum. Terri Daly was named Museum Director after serving for many years as Director of Community Relations and more recently as Marketing Manager. Cheyney McKnight, who had served as Lead Educator, has assumed the position of Marketing Manager. Denise Rohr, a Volunteer Interpreter, is also now one of our Weekend Supervisors. In addition, Terri oversees 13 new volunteer staff members who serve in a variety of positions at the museum.

Many thanks to our President General, other Officers and Committee members, and to our Staff.

Strategic Planning Committee

Evelyn C. Aucoin, Chair reports:

The Strategic Planning Committee has had a successful and productive year.

This committee functions primarily as three workgroups. The workgroup focused on the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum and Garden had a five (5) year strategic plan approved by the Society's Board of Managers on Wednesday April 8th. This was a milestone for the workgroup. Going forward, I anticipate semi-annual touch points between the workgroup and the Museum's Director, Teri Daly, so we can monitor the progress made on this collective vision.

The other workgroups – NY Chapter and Non-NY Chapters, are continuing to hone the vision and strategies for the society as a whole, and future results from that process will manifest in the very near future.

REPORTS OF THE CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Chapter I - Baltimore, Maryland

Chartered in 1892

Officers 2014-2015

President	Martha C. Peter
First Vice-President	Marguerite Jones
Treasurer	Jacqueline C. Ober
Recording Secretary.....	Caroline M. Wayner
Corresponding Secretary.....	Caroline M. Wayner
Registrar	Jean S. Kouwenhoven

Chapter I continued to raise funds for the Colonial Dames mission objectives during 2014-15 fiscal year including scholarships for St. Mary's College and Washington College along with support for Hampton National Historic Site. We raised funds for the scholarships not only with the spring solicitation, but also with the fundraiser/cocktail party held at the home of our Vice President and Program Committee Chair, Mrs. Marguerite Jones, in Garrison on Saturday, November 1, 2014, where 55 members and their spouses attended. Jackie Nelson was the caterer. We charged \$80 of which \$25 went to the scholarship fund and the remaining \$55 covered the cost of the food, drink, and a van to transport guests to/from their cars. The party proved to be a success and we raised enough money to cover our Memo of Understanding with both colleges and then some.

Hampton National Historic Site continues to be an important part of Chapter I's mission. The conservation and purchase of the Astor Piano Forte circa 1800 was completed by this past year. This project began almost four years ago under theegis of our former president, Susan Somerville Hawes in 2011 when Gregory Weidman, Curator of Hampton found the piano forte and put us in touch with David Winston of London a conservator of antique pianos and from whom we made this purchase.

Payment was made in three installments including the air freight to the United States totaling \$15,000. Payment could not have been made without the contributions made by our members especially, Jackie Ober who showed her generosity by giving us \$2,175 and the bequest from the estate of D'Arcy Young of \$1000.

A year ago we were alerted by Beverley Young of our Chapter that the fact that the piano had ivory keys might be a problem importing it into the country. Mrs. Young was correct. It took several months negotiating with US Fish and Wildlife and with US Customs to be allowed to receive the piano with its original ivory keys. We succeeded and the piano arrived in November 2014 in New York and completed its transfer through Customs in Maryland. It is now on permanent loan to Hampton in the Parlour.

Recently, the piano forte was tuned by Barbara Wolf of Wolf Instruments, The Plains Virginia an expert in antique pianos who was recommended by Colonial Williamsburg at a cost of \$450. A concert for the public was held at Hampton, Sunday, April 11, 2014 featuring the piano forte. The piano was played by Musica Antiqua pianist, Anita Avery. The Women's Committee of Historic Hampton, Inc. invited members of Chapter I to the orangery for refreshments following the concert to express their gratitude for our support. The piano is fragile and will not be played very often as to do so would require frequent

tuning and someone with a delicate touch to play it.

The piano is now part of our loan of over 70 objects at Hampton, Accession No. 00025 (CDA Loans) and is insured together with the collection of objects by our chapter through our policy by Travelers (Clark & Mason, Insurance Brokers, Baltimore).

The chapter, in addition, has pledged financial support for the conservation of an original 18th century tall clock for Hampton if the money is needed. This work is expected to be completed over the summer.

Chapter I went further and financially supported the exhibition of Calvert lead coffins that moved from the Smithsonian Institution Museum of American History to the Maryland Historical Society this spring. This was the topic by the speaker, Dr. Henry Miller of Historic St. Mary's City at our annual meeting held at the Mount Vernon Club.

We also participated in the Maryland Day Celebration of Freedom of Conscience and Religion organized by the Society of the Colonial Wars on March 25, 2015, by the laying of a wreath at the Basilica in Baltimore City.

Our traditional Christmas Tea was held Friday, December 12, 2014, at the Roland Park home of Mrs. Mary Pearre that was wonderfully decorated for the season including a magnificent Christmas tree. We were fortunate to have what we consider to be Baltimore's best eggnog provided lovingly by Tom and Beverley Young. This party is a gift of the board of managers to the chapter and as always served as a good time to meet prospective members. Forty-eight members attended with their guests.

Chapter I participated in the July 4th program to unveil the newly restored Washington Monument at Mount Vernon Place in Baltimore commemorating the fact that this was the very first monument to our nation's first president. The Society of the Cincinnati organized the ceremony and we joined them for the dedication and afterwards at a picnic at the Mt. Vernon Club.

Administratively, Chapter I continues to work on balancing its budget, tightening its expenses, and setting standard procedures for making charitable contributions in accordance with the strict guidelines expected of a not for profit organization. We are beginning to use electronic means of communicating with the chapter now that more than 70% of our members have computers and use the internet. Note that CDA NY has a newly revitalized website to this end. The chapter board of managers decided this year to incorporate in the District of Columbia along with the other chapters under CDA New York's leadership. We are waiting for the incorporation process to be completed by CDA NY's attorney, George Constantine of Venable Law Firm, Baltimore. Revitalizing our membership rolls is a priority for the chapter and to that end we have five new members and one member, Mary Woodfill Park, who transferred in from Chapter III in Washington, D.C. This past year we had three resignations: Louise Barroll Barton, Sarah Harris, Mary Baldwin Peacock. One member was dropped for non-payment of dues. And we are sad to report the death of Miss Elizabeth Welsh Young.

Chapter II - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Chartered in 1895

Officers 2014-2015

President	Lynn S. Klein
First Vice-President	Eleanor T. Penniman
Second Vice-President	Sarah C. Lange
Treasurer	Jane M. Eppley
Recording Secretary	Anna K. Iredale
Corresponding Secretary	Anna K. Iredale
Registrar	Sharon D. Holt

We currently have 61 members, with one member in the transfer process and two others working on their papers.

This past fall we enjoyed an outing to Winterthur to see the exquisite Downton Abbey Costume Collection exhibit. We enjoyed it immensely. After viewing the costumes, we had lunch in the dining room and saw a special art exhibit featuring artists from the Brandywine area.

We continue to be stewards of Lemon Hill Mansion in Fairmount Park which we have done since 1957. We interface regularly with the City of Philadelphia, Fairmount Park House Committee and the East Fairmount Park Coalition.

In November we held a Community Day which featured crafts. The children really enjoyed making pine cone bird feeders and decorating a Christmas ornament to take home. Special tours geared towards the children were given. We continue to host school groups and senior citizen lunch tours. Our latest exhibit, "Rooms in Bloom" will take place on May 17th to May 22nd. Floral designers will take inspiration from an artifact in the room and create an arrangement. Several of the other historic houses will also take part in this.

Recently we had a meeting with the city of Philadelphia. The city is in the process of changing our relationship since merging The Conservancy and The Historic Trust departments. We will no longer be the leaseholders of the property and it is the intention of the city to have a caterer at Lemon Hill which would be overseen by the Trust and Conservancy. The caterer will not be in the museum part of the house. It is the intention that the proceeds from the exclusive caterer would defray the costs of repairs to the house. This would help free up monies for our chapter that we could then invest in other projects instead of paying for the security, pest control, house cleaning, phone/internet service, accounting costs for a house director and the costly insurance. To date the city has not provided us with a proposed agreement of our role and our museum collection in the house.

Chapter III - Washington, DC

Chartered in 1898

Officers 2014-2015

President	Mary W. Mayhugh
First Vice-President	Pricilla T. Roberts
Second Vice-President	Jane M. McSwain
Treasurer	Martina P. Caputy
Recording Secretary	Robin W. Dougherty
Corresponding Secretary	Linda H. Aguirre
Registrar	Barbara H. Carpenter

Chapter III continues to thrive in our corner of Fletchers Cove at the Abner Cloud House. Our management of the House serves as a perfect example of a successful partnership with the National Park Service.

We had a year full of programs, open houses and public service. The efforts our Chapter pursues in the study of history and historic preservation fully support the objects of the Dames Charter which has served as our organizations pillars for the last 125 years. Our chapter established 4 strategic goals last year which will ensure not only the long term vitality of our Chapter but also exemplifies the value Colonial Dames of America brings to our community.

The 4 long term goals our Chapter III are:

- Strengthen our partnership with the National Park Service (NPS) and focus on long term maintenance of the ACH
- Identify key acquisitions and areas of interpretation that should be updated in the ACH and improve the historical displays
- Grow Membership and broaden participation in our events
- Expand community partnerships and increase awareness of our organization

We have made some headway with goal one and will continue to work with the NPS to develop a long term maintenance plan. The NPS has shown a great deal of interest but not always able to engage quickly to partner with us. Some of our successes include a lunch last August with key NPS staff where several commitments were made. This past winter, we were successful in convincing the NPS that establishing parking fees for Fletcher's Cove was not in the community's best interest. We presented Jason Ebersole our Archivist at NPS a copy of the Cloud Family Tree our Chapter prepared.

In support of our second goal our Collection Committee did a thorough review of the furnishings. We decided on two key acquisitions for the House and purchased a landscape painting for the 1st floor living area and a painted pine cupboard for the kitchen in the basement. Our greatest preservation accomplishment this year is the completion of the Genealogy of the Cloud Family thanks to the efforts of Kay Titus and her marvelous research team

Our membership Chairman Barb Carpenter has been our "top gun" in recruiting new members and supporting our third goal. We gained seven new members for a total of 88 Dames and have 9 candidates. It is however with great sadness that we lost 4 of our members: Mrs. George Boteler, Mrs. Sara Burch, Mrs. Dorothy Stabell and Mrs. Donald Mayer.

We have also had some wonderful social events this past year beginning with our fall Cocktail

Party – “Canal Capers” in October organized by our younger members Susanna Aguirre and Martina Caputy. This was followed by the splendid “12th Night Party” held in January organized by Jane McSwain and team. In between those two social events we hosted a small wedding at the house (I am sure the Cloud Family enjoyed this event).

We held 10 open houses with the assistance of our magnificent Docent chair Linda Aguirre. We have enjoyed some wonderful programs In November in honor of Veterans Day we visited the Armed Forces Retirement Home and Lincoln’s Cottage. We had a wonderful lunch with the residents and met the last of the “Rosie the Riveter” who happened to be a special guest during our visit. We held some great program that we opened to the public at the house using our own talented members. Melanie May shared her skills on the mountain dulcimer and Anne Henninger presented a fabulous program on intelligence and spying during the American Revolution. In December we made orange pomander balls (and I learned that if you put enough cloves into an orange it will be mummified and well preserved).

We have a wonderful program during our annual meeting at the Chevy Chase Club thanks to our gracious host Robin Dougherty. We were entertained after lunch by the musical talents of Dr. David Hildebrand one of the nation’s premier authorities on period music. Our program year will close out in June with a membership program presented by Robert Kapsch who will discuss his book on the Canal and the nation’s first transportation system.

For our fourth goal, we continue to support the community through our scholarships, programs and house tours. We are expanding our scholarship program beyond our current recipient the University of Virginia, to our local schools with an “Excellence in History Award” and other education based organizations.

We have worked to increase our community involvement in the community and opened many of our membership programs at the ACH to the public. We provided private tours this past year including one for the Cosmos Club. In October Kay Titus, with support from Cici Hughes and Laura Bellman was interviewed by Rebecca Shier on “Metro Connection”. Melanie May one of our new members represented us at the Department of Energy’s Earth Day Program on the National Mall sharing our story of preservation of the ACH.

None of this would happen without the talents and dedication of our Board of Managers and members whose dedication to our mission of education and preservation ensure that our citizens understanding of the sacrifices our ancestors made to ensure the freedoms and liberties that our nation embraces.

CHAPTER IV - Paris, France

Chartered in 1901

Officers 2014-2015

President	Mary L. d’Anglejan-Chatillon
First Vice-President	Evelyn S. Cheuvreux
Treasurer	Susan F. Train
Recording Secretary.....	Susan F. Train
Corresponding Secretary.....	Susan F. Train
Registrar	Evelyn S. Cheuvreux

Chapter IV Paris has twelve members and meets regularly. We continue to have interesting programs including our ongoing project working with the Hermione.

Chapter V - San Francisco, California,

Chartered in 1902

Officers 2014-2015

President	Rebecca S. Viebrock
First Vice-President	Carole B. Vercellino
Treasurer.....	Carol W. Kleyensteuber
Recording Secretary.....	Kathleen M. Martinelli
Corresponding Secretary.....	Kathleen M. Martinelli
Registrar	Jo H. Marcus

Chapter V, Colonial Dames of America, is located in the San Francisco Bay area, with some members driving four or more hours roundtrip to attend meetings. As is custom, meetings are held the first Wednesday of October, December, February and April, with a June summer excursion.

Vice-President Carol Vercellino arranged programs that covered a broad spectrum, in order to peak the interest of the chapter members and guests. In October, Philip Johnson (husband of officer reading this report), presented a program on the war of 1812. This officer also gave an overview of the 2014 Annual meeting and the events she attended.

Chapter V member, Nancy Alexander, gave a program entitled “*Christmas in the Colonies*”, at our annual Christmas luncheon. By popular demand, James Hollabaugh, Lawyer and Historian, returned in February to present his program, *Washington’s Spies*”. Our April program was to have been on Colonial Dining. However, due to a last minute cancellation, twenty-two Chapter V members and guests had a wonderful time visiting and becoming better acquainted. Book Chairman, Pamela Bryant, keeps the members apprised of the CDA books chosen to receive awards in the adult and youth categories.

Honors were given to Ms. Elaine Oldman, Chapter Advisor, who was responsible garnering the very first Presidents Award for Excellence given to a chapter; to Treva Jo Marcus, for her long service to the chapter as Registrar; and to Rebecca Viebrock in serving the chapter as President for nine years.

In several past reports, this officer stated that one of the goals of Chapter V was to increase membership, something that has been evident with an increase in attendance at meetings. The chapter is delighted to have four working on papers.

Chapter V continues to award a \$1,500 scholarship each year to a University of California student.

It is a pleasure for this officer to present Susan Trau Johnson, Chapter V delegate, recently elected and installed as Chapter V President, and who has given this report.

Rebecca S. Viebrock

Chapter VI - Shreveport, Louisiana

Chartered in 1910

Officers 2014-2015

President	Martha W. Johnson
First Vice-President.....	Evelyne C. Taylor
Treasurer	Georgia F. Hodgson
Recording Secretary	Mary H. Richard
Corresponding Secretary	Mary H. Richard
Registrar.....	Martha H. Thompson

Our April 24, 2013 meeting was a luncheon at Ristorante Giuseppe. It was a delightful day as we greeted William (Bill) Joyce and Branden Oldenburg, Creative Partner from Moonbot Studios in Shreveport, recipients of the Oscar for their short production The Flying Books of Morris Lessmore. Each of us had the rare opportunity to hold the Oscar as it was passed around the table. Bill is a Shreveport native and well known for his many children’s books (enjoyed and collected by many of us). His children were his inspiration and most of the books from stories he had told to them. He brought with him copies of one of his books written in many languages, told us “a story” and shared with us the adventure to “The Oscars” and the exhilaration of receiving one.

We brought about 15 of our copies of his books which decorated the table and asked him where he would like us to place them in his honor. His office later called to tell us that “The Highland Center” in Shreveport was a special interest of Bill and his wife, Elizabeth. The books are to be taken to them.

The annual award to the Students for Outstanding Work in American History was given to two deserving students for their work.

Our Fall Dutch treat luncheon at Ristorante Giuseppe was a business meeting.

Chapter VII - Nashville, Tennessee

Chartered in 1926

Officers 2014-2015

President	Ruth M. Holman
First Vice-President	Danya K. Downey
Second Vice-President.....	Barbara A. McCoin
Treasurer	Joan L. Cherry
Recording Secretary.....	Joan F. Strauss
Corresponding Secretary.....	Elizabeth W. James
Registrar	Sondra G. Lee

Chapter Chapter IV Nashville has 87 members and meets regularly. We continue to have interesting programs throughout the year.

Chapter VIII – Houston, Texas

Chartered in 1928

Officers 2014-2015

President	Evelyn C. Aucoin
First Vice-President	Julia deBerardinis
Second Vice-President	Judith-Ann S. Rosenthal
Treasurer	Olga McLaren
Recording Secretary	Cindy L. Rucker
Corresponding Secretary	Mary T. Ford
Registrar	Patricia R. Williams

2014-15 marked 86 years of CDA service for Houston’s Chapter VIII. During this fiscal year we added eleven new members, welcomed two transfers, and mourned the passing of three long time members. For the year we, ultimately grew by ten dames or 8% growth for the year. Membership continues to grow, with twenty-five (25) prospective members currently working on their papers for admittance to the society.

Wednesday, April 28, 2014 was the Spring Conference Luncheon in the private room at Tony’s restaurant, where we hosted all our events this past year. The program topic was “Keeping your Treasures out of the Trash” and Suzi Knight, of Merrill Lynch spoke about passing along collections and impacts to an estate, and she brought Mark Prendergast Director of Business Development, Trusts & Estates at Heritage Auctions to round out the presentation. He presented a great, anecdotal presentation focusing on “hot topics” concerning collections in today’s auction environment. Heritage Auction gifted everyone in attendance with their most recently updated edition of their Collectors Guidebook.

Then the following Nov 5th, we held our Winter Conference, with the program presented by Jim Parsons, a Director with Preservation Houston. He presented a wonderful power point with many pictures of historical Houston and highlighted the recent projects completed by the organization. A prominent Houstonian who serves on Preservation Houston’s Board of Directors, Miranda Sevcik, attended as my special guest. A donation of \$500 was made in support of Preservation Houston’s mission as thanks for his wonderful program.

On January 28 2015 the Annual conference included a program by Mr. Thomas Gillette. He was an eye-witness to the bombing at Pearl Harbor. He was nine years old and in the barracks as the bombing commenced. His fascination with the event led to years of research and documentation which he shared during his presentation.

The chapter’s Annual Conference also included the installation of three new Chapter Board of Management members.

In 2014, Chapter VIII awarded three college scholarships, bringing the total to over

\$150,000 that has been distributed to daughters, granddaughters and nieces, including myself in 1989, from our Chapter since 1979.

During 2014-2015, Chapter VIII donated to the Mount Vernon Hotel and Museum, including the donation of a gift basket for a weekend at a bed and breakfast in upstate New York's wine country for the Fall Fundraiser.

We also had donations made by members during our 2015 Dues Campaign to both the St. Kitt's Anglican Church cemetery restoration (\$507), and also to the Society's museum (\$600).

Chapter VIII's Chaplain, Pegi Karsner Ivancevich, was elected to serve on the Society's Board of Managers, 2014-2016. And I, Evelyn Chapman Aucoin, continued to serve on the Development Committee, and serve as Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee for the Society.

The Chapter nominated former Chapter President extraordinaire, Beth Leney, for the Society's Van Rensselaer Award, and we are thrilled that she was approved to receive this honor. She is truly an outstanding dame, and we appreciate having a special way to honor her dedication, endless good works to our Chapter, other historical societies and her community.

The membership looks forward to our continued enthusiastic support of the Society's Museum and overall mission.

Chapter IX – Lexington, Kentucky

Chartered in 1929

Officers 2014-2015

President	Jeanette R. Worthham
First Vice-President	Willie Jean R. Moore
Treasurer.....	Nancy H. Lutz
Recording Secretary.....	Alice Taylor
Corresponding Secretary.....	Julia C. Robertson
Registrar	Sharon L. Clouse

Meetings of Chapter IX –Lexington, Kentucky, are usually held on the second Thursday of June and October in Lexington, Kentucky.

The June 12, 2014, Annual Meeting was held in the lovely Lexington Country Club in Lexington, Kentucky. Our very special guest and speaker was CDA 2nd Vice President Brantley Carter Bolling Knowles (Mrs. Peter I.C. Knowles, II) who gave an excellent power point presentation on CDA: Our Place in History and our National Museum. After the luncheon and program some of our members drove her to Danville, Kentucky, for a tour of the Dr. Ephraim McDowell Historical Home and Gardens which we partially support. Mrs. Knowles is a charming lady and brought us much useful information.

The October 9, 2014, meeting was held at the Lexington Country Club. Our guest speaker was Dr. Jamie Day, a History professor at Transylvania University in Lexington, the first

college built west of the Alleghenies. His topic was *Legends, Lore and Outright Lies about Transylvania University* and he enthralled us with the historical facts and artifacts he has found at the University.

Chapter IX continued its established support of two important educational and historical preservation projects in Kentucky with two generous grants of \$1000 each to the McDowell House National Historic Landmark, Danville, Kentucky, and to the Margaret I. King Library Rare Book Department, University of Kentucky, Lexington, for a graduate student to assist in archival restoration.

We are focusing on growing our membership. This year we gained one new member, Sharon Mayne Withers, who transferred to Chapter IX from Chapter XXX. Twelve potential members are working on their papers.

Chapter X - Rome, Italy

Chartered in 1930

Officers 2014-2015

President	Sharrilyn Whiting
First Vice-President	Flavia O. Accolti-Gil
Treasurer	Ann Pulver Siravo
Recording Secretary	Sheila C. Danielli
Corresponding Secretary	Sheila C. Danielli
Registrar	Suzanne T. Festa

Chapter X met for dinner in October 2014 at the home of Ann Pulver and Francesco Siravo. October is traditionally when our courtesy members spend time in Italy and the chapter holds its fall meeting at that time. The chapter held its annual business meeting in March 2015. Our focus at this time is a full review of governance, by laws and membership guidelines as we look into the future. A Dames Day in the Country in Umbria is planned for Memorial Day 2015.

Sharri Whiting, Chapter President, represented Chapter X at the 2014 Annual Meeting in New York. In 2015 Flavia Accolti Gil and Sharri are attending the 125th Anniversary Annual Meeting.

Chapter X was pleased to support the Annual Fall Fundraiser benefitting the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum and Garden with a trip to Italy provided by Ann Pulver and Sharri Whiting. In addition, the chapter supports the Non-Catholic Cemetery in Rome.

We have 11 members, one prospective member, two courtesy members and one prospective courtesy member.

Chapter XI - London, England

Chartered in 1930

Officers 2014-2015

President	Anne K. Brewster
First Vice-President	Nancy D. Gough
Second Vice-President	Barbara S. Carse
Treasurer	Barbara S. Carse
Recording Secretary	Melissa W. Gadsden
Corresponding Secretary	Nancy R. Rousset
Registrar	Nancy D. Gough

Chapter XI had two formal business meetings in 2014 and in addition met informally to discuss other Chapter business. The Dames also have frequent contact with one another throughout the year.

Following our business meeting in June 2014, we enjoyed a lovely lunch at the Orangery, a favourite venue for the Dames, in the grounds of Kensington Palace. Queen Anne had the Orangery built in 1704 as a new ‘greenhouse’ styled in the manner of an elegant palace with a terrace where she could grow citrus trees and exotic plants. The design of this beautiful building involved three famous architects of the day – Christopher Wren, Nicholas Hawksmoor and John Vanbrugh.

We had our second business meeting at the beginning of December 2014, again followed by an enjoyable lunch at a popular venue with chapter XI Dames, the Belvedere Restaurant. The restaurant stands in the middle of one of London’s most beautiful parks and is situated in a building that dates back to the 17th century and was once the Summer Ballroom of the Jacobean mansion that was Holland House.

As a possible project, the Chapter is exploring the feasibility of underwriting a public lecture at the Royal Academy, London, which would focus on Benjamin West (1738-1820), an Anglo-American painter of historical scenes and the second president of the Royal Academy.

The Chapter was represented at three events in 2014 by Ellen Davidson, a former Chapter XI president. In May, Ellen attended the UK Society of the Society of Colonial Wars in London, England. The event was a fundraiser for the continuing restoration of Sulgrave Manor, the ancestral home of George Washington, and Chapter XI is happy to support this cause. In June, Ellen participated in the event in Plymouth, England, with the National Society United States Daughters of 1812 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. Then in August, Ellen again represented the Chapter at the Bermuda War of 1812 celebrations in St Georges. Ellen sailed on The Spirit of Bermuda, a replica tall ship of the period, which retraced the path the Royal Navy took out of Bermuda to meet the fleet that ultimately burned down the White House and fought at Fort McHenry in Baltimore.

I am pleased to say that our Chapter will be represented by two Dames, Ellen Davidson and Linda Waterhouse, our Chapter Proprietor, at the 125th Annual Meeting in New York.

Chapter XII - St. Louis, Missouri

Chartered in 1938

Officers 2014-2015

President	Margaret L. Carr
First Vice-President	Demetra C. Kelly
Treasurer.....	Patsy Limpus
Recording Secretary.....	Sue Rogers Vesser
Corresponding Secretary.....	Jeannine Kallal
Registrar	Sue O’Brian

Chapter XII CDA meets twice a year. Our Annual Meeting is May 15, and we have a second meeting at the Woman’s Club, 4600 Lindell Boulevard in Saint Louis. Our speaker on October 15, 2014 was Leslie Canavan who spoke on Dutch Pottery in New York.

On October 8, 2014 our chapter was honored to have President General Sharon Vaino and her husband visit us. We met at Cardwell’s in Frontenac, MO.

Our Organizational Resolutions have been signed and sent in. We have agreed to the By-Laws and Incorporation done by the Parent Society. I appointed Patsy Limpus to be a proprietor for the Council of Proprietors for the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum and Garden and the Museum Committee.

We are actively pursuing new members. I look forward to another productive year.

Chapter XIII – Kansas City, Missouri

Chartered in 1949

Officers 2014-2015

President	Mary B. Frisch
First Vice-President	Cathy B. Hedlund
Treasurer.....	Mary S. Mize
Recording Secretary.....	Beverly W. Brownlee
Corresponding Secretary.....	Beverly W. Brownlee
Registrar	Frances S. Bade

CDA Chapter XIII meets four times a year in March, July, October, and December. We have 22 members and 1 prospective member.

We donated \$500 to the Harris-Kearney House in Westport, Missouri. This is a historical museum listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

We donated \$500 the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden when we hosted the President General and her husband when she made her official visit to Kansas City.

We have enjoyed outstanding guest speakers that our program chairman Cathy Hedlund has provided.

In July we met at an Irish restaurant. We enjoyed hearing from each member a short story they wished to tell about their heritage, family, or interesting event in their life.

Chapter XIV - Chicago, Illinois

Chartered in 1952

Officers 2014-2015

President	Mary V. Gustafson
First Vice-President	Helen H. Martin
Second Vice-President	Clara G. Hoepfner
Treasurer	Anne E. Burket
Recording Secretary	Sandra O. Polito
Corresponding Secretary	Luanne F. Bruckner
Registrar	Patricia C. Stahler

Chapter XIV met four times in 2014. The highlight of the year was the Official Visit of President General Sharon Vaino (and her husband, Jaan)! President General Vaino was our special guest and speaker at our Annual Benefit Luncheon on October 16, at the home of Sandy Polito. In her presentation President General Vaino gave the history of the Mt. Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden and updated the members on upcoming CDA events. She encouraged us to work on attaining new members.

The May 1, 2014 members met at the Sheldon Peck Homestead & Victorian Cottage Museum in Lombard, IL. Following an interesting tour, we had our luncheon/meeting at Glen Oak Country Club. On June 19, members met at Maxson's Riverside Restaurant in Oregon, IL for a luncheon-cruise on the Rock River. The views from the boat were breathtaking! The Captain gave the history of the Rock River area. Of special interest was the huge 50 foot Black Hawk Statue designed by Sculptor Lorado Taft. This statue is a tribute to all Native Americans. Legend has it that Chief Black Hawk, as he left the area after the Black Hawk War, admonished his captors to care for the land as he and his people had.

Our final meeting of 2014 was held at the historic Palmer House in Chicago on December 4. At this meeting members voted to donate \$600.00 to the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum in New York and \$200.00 to The Schmidt Burnham Log Cabin in Winnetka, IL. The Schmidt Burnham Log Cabin project received the President's Award for Excellence in 2004 and is still a project that Chapter XIV supports. Following the meeting, members were given a three-hour tour of the Historic Palmer House. This hotel was a wedding gift to Bertha Honore Palmer from her husband Potter Palmer in 1871.

Chapter XIV is working on membership. In 2014 we gained seven (7) Members! Applications are pending for two (2) prospective members. Our Registrar, Jayne Cates has been very busy!

Chapter XV - Jackson, Mississippi

Chartered in 1954

Officers 2014-2015

President	Carolyn N. Howard
First Vice President.....	Ann A. Simmons
Treasurer.....	Carolyn N. Howard
Recording Secretary.....	Betty S. Bradley
Corresponding Secretary.....	Betty S. Bradley
Registrar	Ann R. King

Chapter XV, Mississippi, has had a truly whirlwind year!

Beginning with a visit from President General Sharon Vaino with her charming husband Jaan in early October, the year truly began with a bang. The Vainos arrived in Columbia, Mississippi, to be hosted by Mr. and Mrs. William Simmons (former president Ann Atkinson Simmons) at their beautiful historic residence the Governor Hugh White Home. On the next day Mrs. Simmons hosted a magnificent brunch, and tours were given with other chapter members present as well. Present at this occasion was also the handsome former Army Ranger Casey Zimmerman, groom of daughter Liza who is a new member of the chapter, along with sister/new member Chad Bolles.

Afterwards, the Vainos and members were treated to a tour of the chapter's proposed restoration project The Waterworks Building, which will provide to a thriving small town both a cultural arts center and historical museum. This is a very ambitious project, which we hope to collaborate in conjunction with the town and other historical organizations.

Members then held their fall meeting with Mrs. Vaino at the Marion County Historical Museum, where many questions about National's new procedures and opportunities were discussed. Following the meeting, a late luncheon was held in downtown Columbia where the Vainos were surprised during lunch with a passing homecoming parade with fresh flower- adorned floats, maids, and marching bands. The group joked about the planned consideration of Columbia for such a treat solely for our President General and spouse!

Next the Vainos drove to Capital City Jackson where they were the houseguests of Mr. and Mrs. Randall Howard (President Carolyn Nause Howard) and were honored that evening at a seated dinner at the Country Club of Jackson by the chapter. Entertainment was provided by Mississippi's Cultural Ambassador Miss Ora Reed, a world-renowned singer and pianist, whose recent engagement in Tokyo provided the Fourth of July celebration for Ambassador Caroline Kennedy at the Japanese embassy. Mrs. Vaino was presented a lovely basket with statewide mementoes and keepsakes to remind her of the visit to Mississippi.

After brunch the following morning with a New Orleans friend of the Howards there was a dialogue about a New Orleans chapter's establishment discussed. Then followed a tour of Chapter XV's earlier renovation project at the Jackson Municipal Art Gallery, the former family residence of members; and this completed the visit to Mississippi, one our chapter will fondly remember.

December brought the first Christmas tea for the chapter. This was held as a fund raiser for the Mary Flowers Hendrix Nursing Scholarship Fund at the Jackson Municipal Art Gallery with both silent auction and donations opportunities to further promote this project, now housed at the top-rated Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, Mississippi. We were pleased to have the director of the nursing school, Dean Sheila Adams, present for this occasion.

The April 2015 meeting will locally celebrate the 125th anniversary of Colonial Dames of America with an introduction of each newer member and awards for excellence to those chapter Dames who have served the chapter meritoriously. Also, Dean Sheila Adams of the Mississippi University for Women will report on the progress of our scholarship fund at the school.

As the chapter began its first good works in mainly the Jackson area, we are now pleased to have reached north with the scholarship fund and south with the proposed Waterworks Building restoration project. We now feel that the chapter is truly becoming a more statewide presence here in Mississippi. Our theme “From Columbus to Columbia” continues to grow and reach our state. We now have increased our membership by a strong percentage, and we look to continue to grow to serve better our organization’s goals both locally and with our National interests. We especially appreciate the help and interest National has taken in our chapter this year and truly feel we are a better, stronger chapter because of this.

Chapter XVI - Des Moines, Iowa

Chartered in 1955

Officers 2014-2015

- President Roberta S. Parks
- First Vice-President Nan S. Keith
- Second Vice-President Avo T. Davidson
- Treasurer Myrtle L. Van Dyke
- Recording Secretary Donna S. Luepker
- Corresponding Secretary Donna S. Luepker
- Registrar Raygena K. Garringer

Chapter Chapter XVI Des Moines, Iowa has 21 members and meets regularly. We continue to have interesting programs throughout the year.

CHAPTER XVII - Palm Beach, Florida

Chartered in 1964

Officers 2014-2015

President	Rachel L. Lorentzen
First Vice-President	Corinne M. Schoeller
Second Vice-President	Lucy H. Bauer
Treasurer	Robin O. Azqueta
Recording Secretary	Joette S. Keen
Corresponding Secretary	Diane A. Oelsner
Registrar	Lucy H. Bauer

Chapter Chapter XVII Palm Beach has 67 members and meets regularly. We continue to have interesting programs throughout the year.

Chapter XVIII - Springfield, Ohio

Chartered in 1980

Officers 2014-2015

President	Mary S. Miller
First Vice-President	Cynthia H. Valente
Treasurer	Jeanne H. Lampe-Ray
Recording Secretary	Cynthia H. Valente
Corresponding Secretary	Lynne H. Linn
Registrar	Mary S. Miller

Chapter XVIII met at the Springfield Country Club in May, September and December of 2014 and in March of 2015. Programs included biographies of the ancestors of various members, both past and present, along with info about their service; military, historical and political. Reviews of the books nominated for awards with hard copies were present at meetings for members to peruse. Also presented was a review of 'It Happened In Springfield', researched by one of the founding chapter members, Mary M. Miller. Traditions concerning the Yule Log was the subject of the program in December.

We continue our tradition of donating to the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum. The Chapter also contributed to the restoration of the Columbia Street cemetery by the local Heritage Center. Also members were given info on the update of the Colonial Dames of America website and email addresses.

The Chapter welcomed a new member in 2014 and the reinstatement of a former member. One prospective member is waiting for her blue slip approval. Membership now numbers 23.

Chapter XIX – Florida Everglades
Chartered in 1982

Officers 2014-2015

President	Mary B. Csar
First Vice-President	Virginia B. Fletcher
Second Vice-President	Sallie J. Christian
Treasurer	Barbara E. Messere
Recording Secretary	Dona R. Zuckerman
Corresponding Secretary	Patricia P. Sikes
Registrar	Marsha L. Love

November 14, 2014, Lauderdale Yacht Club, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

The first meeting of the year welcomed members at the Lauderdale Yacht Club. Members enjoyed getting back together and attendance from both east and west coasts was good. The chapter approved the projects for the year, adding the Cason Cottage in Delray Beach as a new project. After the meeting and lunch, we heard a talk by Boca Raton Historical Society Curator, Susan Gillis, who spoke about World War II in Ft. Lauderdale and Broward County.

April 17, 2015, Naples Sailing and Yacht Club

The annual meeting of the chapter was at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club. The attendance was good with members from both coasts. Members approved the slate of officers for the 2015 - 16 year. Following through with our WWII theme from the fall meeting, the program was a talk by Dr. Leon Hesser, an 89-year old WWII veteran, who recounted his experiences in the war and also his career after the war as an Agricultural Economist.

Projects 2014 - 15:

- Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden
- Cason Cottage, Delray Beach
- Naples Historical Society- Palm Cottage
- Chapter XIX Memorial Scholarships (East Coast and West Coast)

These projects are funded annually by contributions of the members.

Chapter XX - Los Angeles, California

Chartered in 1982

Officers 2014-2015

President	Margaret A. Wilson
First Vice-President	Cheryl M. Bucknam
Treasurer.....	Donna C. Derrick
Recording Secretary.....	Lucille T. Hobart
Corresponding Secretary.....	Diana C. Robertson
Registrar	Catherine B. Matranga

Members of Chapter XX enjoyed four luncheon meetings at the historical Pasadena Woman’s City Club, which is renowned for their delicious popovers. Our programs proved to be most interesting, beginning in October, Mr. Robert Giambalvo spoke on the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade Association. He is a member of the Community Relations Committee and shared many insightful behind the scenes stories. In December, our Christmas luncheon program was provided by author, David Coscia. He has researched and written books the “red cars” in Los Angeles and Pasadena. In February, Joedy Adams spoke on her memories of December 7, 1941, living in Hawaii as a twelve year old. Our May meeting will be one of our own long time members, Barbara Albrecht, sharing her very special needlepoint collection. She has won many awards and we are delighted to have her share them with us.

Our present membership is 49. We have Prospective members working on their applications eagerly waiting for approval from National. Members continue to seek out women who qualify and are interested in membership and advancing the interest and preservation of our common Colonial Heritage.

We have contributed to the Scholarship Fund, Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden, and the Garden and Grounds Fund. We have also contributed to the Garden Fund in memory of one of our longtime chapter members and chaplain, Patricia DeCiccio. Mrs. DeCiccio served on many of our boards always doing an exceptional job at whatever task was required of her. She will be greatly missed.

Our members are a wonderful group of ladies that I am blessed and honored to serve as their President and we continue to enjoy and look forward to our gathering together in the bond of fellowship.

Chapter XXI - Dallas, Texas

Chartered in 1982

Officers 2014-2015

President	Jean A. Flatt
Treasurer	Hallie P. Garner
Recording Secretary.....	Sidney A. Farrar
Corresponding Secretary.....	Sidney A. Farrar
Registrar	Linda T. Juba

Chapter XXI Dallas has 58 members and meets regularly. We continue to have interesting programs throughout the year.

Chapter XXII – Michigan

Chartered in 1984

Officers 2014-2015

President	Catherine C. Pouls
First Vice-President	Carolyn B. Levin
Second Vice-President.....	Audrey D. Lambert
Treasurer.....	Diane L. McNamara
Recording Secretary.....	Kay M. Gines
Corresponding Secretary.....	Elizabeth H. Edwards
Registrar	Barbara Hofmann

This past year marked Chapter XXII’s 30th Anniversary. We celebrated at our Annual Meeting with lunch at the Hong Hua Restaurant and a tour of the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills. The tour was wonderful and after we met with a Holocaust Survivor.

July’s meeting was held at the Village Club in Bloomfield Hills. Our speaker was our own Barbara Suhay who spoke on “The White House: A History”. It was a very interesting and informative presentation.

Our October meeting was held at the Village Club also where we had as our special guest, President General Sharon Vaino and her husband, Jann Vaino. The President General was our speaker. After the meeting we entertained them at The Cranbrook Museum followed by dinner. It was an honor and a privilege to have them visit Chapter XXII.

Our membership stands at 60 with one Daughter of a Dame. We are currently working with two prospective members. Last year was a wonderful year and our membership is very enthusiastic. Our goals remain to support the National Society and to promote membership.

Chapter XXIII - Virginia
Chartered in 1986

Officers 2014-2015

President	Blair W. Lawrence
First Vice-President.....	Mary M. Hansen
Second Vice-President	Courtenay T. Altaffer
Third Vice-President	Mary S. Plaster
Treasurer	Celeste A. Wheelwright
Recording Secretary	Elizabeth T. Courts
Corresponding Secretary	Jocelyn M. Lance
Registrar.....	Walta M. Warren

Chapter XXIII is one of the few Chapters that does not own an historic property. Therefore, our focus is on the study of and learning about historic properties in VA and those related to our members. This year we have concentrated on Stratford Hall and Menokin, homes of the Lees, and Mt. Airy in Tidewater and the Octagon House in Washington, D.C., built in 1801 by William Thornton, designer of the U.S. Capitol. These are homes of the Tayloe Family, 10th generation owners. The Willard Hotel was also a Tayloe property.

Our financial focus rather than maintaining a property is directed to giving scholarships to young women who have chosen to intern at VA archaeological sites. Poplar Forest, Thomas Jefferson's summer retreat, and Stratford Hall are two of the most recent sites which we have supported. Most recently we have joined the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the National Park Service to create a publication which will inform the public about a newly discovered Indian site called Werowocomoco, the headquarters of Chief Powhatan, the paramount chief of the tribes that controlled Coastal Virginia before the arrival of the English

Finally, Chapter XXIII has the great honor of claiming as one of our own, Charlotte Miller, Past President General and President to be one of the 1st recipients of the new Mrs. John King Van Rensselaer Award for Distinguished Service.

Chapter XXIV - Atlanta, Georgia

Chartered in 1986

Officers 2014-2015

President	Helen H. Rogge
First Vice-President	Charlotte J. Christian
Second Vice-President	Martha H. Wright
Treasurer	Georgia B. Stitt
Recording Secretary.....	Christina W. Morris
Corresponding Secretary.....	Marion S. Bunker
Registrar	Marian Q. Brannen

Chapter XXIV - Atlanta, GA. has fifty (55) Active Members, two Emeritae members, one (1)courtesy member and ten (10) Pending members and two (2) in memoriam, Cleo Dansby Williams deceased 8-22- 2014 and Corrie Hoyt Hendrix deceased 1-23-2015 and.ten (10) Pending members.

The activities of XXIV - Atlanta started this past year by our hosting the start-up of Regional Meetings of our Southeastern Region which is Chapter VII Nashville, Chapter XXIV - Atlanta, Chapter XXIX North Carolina, XXXI - South Carolina, and XXXIII - Georgia Piedmont. Brantley Knowles CDA 2nd Vice President General, Chairman of the CDA Liaison Committee for Special Initiatives was in charge of the meeting, where we shared information "Triumphs and Challenges " in an intimate setting. The Regional Workshop was also moderated by Brantley Knowles. Chapter XXIV had a lovely dinner party the night before the meeting and workshop in the beautiful home of Marion and Bob Bunker. In attendance at the meeting were VII Nashville, XXXIII - Georgia Piedmont and the host Chapter XXIV - Atlanta. Everyone liked the idea and felt it very beneficial.

Chapter XXIV - Atlanta has learned there is nothing better than to start our new year with a "good -time" Party- Social to just be together and celebrate The Colonial Dames of America. Marion and Bob Bunker hosted a sparkling party on September 28, 2014 in their lovely home, "one more time." Members and their husbands and friends had a delightful time.

Chapter XXIV has one General meeting in October, a second General Meeting in February and one Annual meeting in May. Margo Trustlow hosted the October Meeting with her mother, Louise Minor. The Program was a beautiful Colonial Musical Program of several spectacular Duets by the talented, pianists daughters of Louise Minor. Margo Trustlow, pianist and organist and her sister, Lu Lyon, a concert pianist were wonderful. Margo and Lu had researched Colonial Music, classical and folk and explained that piano's , did not exist in the early era of Colonial times. Margo and Lu played several songs too such as "The Devil's Questions" and Riddles of the time. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the Program. Nancy Ferguson, Book Award Chairman gave a brief presentation of "Mr. President: George Washington and the Making of a President."

The February General Meeting was exciting as we met at the Sandy Springs Heritage Museum where we presented our new Project, Moses Robinson's hand carved whittled small wooden toys. Through the years Mr. Robinson whittled over a thousand tiny and

small toys and gave them all away to children, who had very few toys in their rural homes in Sandy Springs, Georgia. Marsh Webb presented a slideshow with many pictures of the toys, some made out of a peach pit like a cup or a tiny pig. All of these pieces were donated or loaned to the museum by families from this area. We were charmed and fascinated by the Program. Book Award Chairman, Nancy Ferguson gave a brief presentation of the books the book Award Committee recommended. The first one was "Benjamin Church the Spy, a Case of Espionage of the Revolution." The second one "James Madison" by Lynn Cheney. The third book was "A Rick Spot of Earth by Peter Hatch. A catered lunch was followed by the end of the meeting.

The XXIV Annual Chapter Meeting will be held at the Cherokee Town Club on Friday, May 8, 2015. Our new Officer's will be installed and our major report will be "The 125th Annual Meeting of the Colonial Dames of America" in New York City, N Y. We will have two delegates attending the meeting and one member who is on the Parent Board will also attend.

The XXIV Board already has plans for our "Fall Social." A unique place for a party, "The Oakland Cemetery" in Atlanta is being planned for September 20, 2015. Oakland is an interesting Cemetery with many different types of tours and very beautiful grounds. At the end of the party, some of us may want to go across the street to the Restaurant and Bar "Six Feet Under."

Chapter XXV - Phoenix, Arizona

Chartered in 1990

Officers 2014-2015

President	Susan G. Kreckler
First Vice-President.....	Frances B. Rakestraw
Treasurer	Elizabeth H. Degnan
Recording Secretary	Sarah W. Hlavay
Corresponding Secretary	Sarah W. Hlavay
Registrar.....	Carol Lee C. Wold

Chapter XXV held its Holiday Luncheon and Meeting on December 6, 2014. We met in the private dining room of the Phoenix Art Museum. Each attendee reached back through the years and told of a special Christmas memory.

Our Annual meeting was held on March 28, 2015 at Gertrude's at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix. Officers gave reports of the year's activities. The election of new officers for the coming term was held. New officers were installed and each, as well as departing officers, received a rose.

We have a membership of twenty-three. Papers for one candidate will be submitted soon and we expect several new candidates in the coming months.

We take pride in our chapter and will continue to fulfill the ideals of The Colonial Dames.

CHAPTER XXVI – Austin, Texas
Chartered in 1992

Officers 2014-2015

This chapter is currently under the authority of the Parent Chapter until such time as new officers are named.

CHAPTER XXVII - San Antonio, Texas
Chartered in 1993

Officers 2014-2015

President Sharon Lynn C. Harrison
First Vice-President Julia B. Scheibe
Second Vice-President Sarah M. Jordan
Treasurer Sarah M. Jordan
Recording Secretary Rosemary D. Sanders
Corresponding Secretary Alice E. Johnson
Registrar Jennifer J. Mery

Chapter XXVII continues to meet two or three times a year along with a Christmas or Garden Party. Most of our meetings have been held at the Junior League Tea Room.

The meetings are interesting and enjoyable we have 15 members and our membership is growing.

CHAPTER XXVIII – Melbourne, Florida
Chartered in 1994

Officers 2014-2015

President Anne S. Schwanda
First Vice-President Joyce L. Sizemore
Second Vice-President Barbara A. Wagerman
Treasurer Nelle H. Mussler
Recording Secretary Roberta C. Hoffman
Corresponding Secretary Elizabeth D. Michael
Registrar Lila W. Sandstrom

Chapter XXVII Melbourne has 40 members and meets regularly. We continue to have interesting programs throughout the year.

CHAPTER XXIX – North Carolina

Chartered in 1999

Officers 2014-2015

President	Noel L. Baucom
First Vice-President	Polly H. Jarrett
Treasurer	Lee T. Shugrue
Recording Secretary.....	Laura J. Howell
Corresponding Secretary.....	Laura J. Howell
Registrar	Elizabeth H. Hobbs

Chapter XXIX North Carolina has 56 members and meets regularly. We continue to have interesting programs throughout the year.

CHAPTER XXX - Venice, Florida

Chartered in 1999

Officers 2014-2015

President	Mary Elizabeth W. Crocker
First Vice-President	Barbara L. DeRiemacker
Second Vice-President.....	Janice B. Murnan
Treasurer	Lauralee H. Clayton
Recording Secretary.....	Rosemary T. Vauzanges
Corresponding Secretary.....	Carol W. Cornell
Registrar	Alice T. Hornback

Greetings from Venice Florida, 2014-15 has been a very active year for Chapter XXX. We have done some reorganizing and feel we are headed in the right direction, on the right path.

We meet four times a year and have branched out our meeting locations to accommodate more members. We updated our By-Laws and are coming into the electronic age.

We have given our support to the restoration of The Lord Heigel House, the oldest house in Venice, by donating \$1000 designated for a new front door with our name attached. We supported Wreaths across America, donated money to the Scholarship Fund, and belong to the Venice Historical Society.

We have had very interesting programs and have worked very hard at increasing our membership. We also had our Annual Luncheon Tea with members wearing hats and gloves. Our program was a Colonial Fashion Show, with members modeling period dresses and two male guests (husbands) in their work and dress uniforms.

We are proud of our hard work and accomplishments this past year and will strive to accomplish the CDA goals of Education of American History and Historical Preservation in the future.

CHAPTER XXXI – South Carolina

Chartered in 2006

Officers 2014-2015

President	Theresa H. Johnson
First Vice-President	Dois N. Thompson
Second Vice-President	Margaret B. Wolfe
Treasurer	Mary M. Duvall
Recording Secretary	Marilyn D. Altman
Corresponding Secretary	Sally E. Flinn
Registrar	Robin R. Towns

We are happy to share in the 125th Anniversary of the founding of The Colonial Dames of America, a women’s society that has always set the standard as an inspiring example for the preservation of American history, education, scholarships, and patriotism.

Chapter XXI’s membership stands at 54 and includes 7 courtesy members, one junior member and 1 Daughter Dame.

Three chapter members attended the 2014 Annual Meeting in New York; Board Member and fellow chapter member Laurie Aldinger, Chapter XXXI President Theresa Johnson, and our chapter’s founding President Dyane Kellogg also a life member of the Parent Chapter.

The year 2014 was primarily dedicated to the completion of Chapter XXI’s entry for the 2014 President’s Award for Excellence, the *Old Horry Court House Handrails and Steps Restoration Project*. One of our project goals was to solidify a working relationship between the community and our society so that by working together in the presence of history, we would encourage public interest in and promote a heightened awareness of the great responsibility we all have in holding as valuable our city’s historic future through preservation. The project won The President’s Award for Excellence and attending that dinner in NY where that great honor was bestowed on the chapter was both an exciting and rewarding experience. The appreciation from the City of Conway was tremendous, thus they co-sponsored a dedication ceremony on September 6, 2014 to honor a great collaboration among state preservation professionals, Conway City Council, Coastal Carolina University, and many other like-minded contributors with whom we had formed bonds of trust and a common purpose. This galvanization of resources was recognized with stately presentation awards that chronicled the expertise and efforts of those who made this presentation project successful.

The location for this marketing event was the Robert Mills garden where the beautiful high-relief Verdi bronze CDA plaque complete with hand forged sign frame and Dogwood flower fastenings was lovingly placed next to the building newly restored. At the beginning of the program everyone was delighted with Mr. Lance Stephens, a young ten year old boy who sang an outstanding rendition of *America the Beautiful*. Participants walked to Dilly Beans Restaurant after the event for a delightful luncheon.

When I think of historical preservation, I am reminded of our First Lady, 1961-1963, who was so resolute in her conviction to elevate the stature of the White House in the world's eyes by restoring its historical integrity and allowing it to take its own place of pride among the grand capital buildings of the world. During the restoration, she rekindled the spirit of preservation and restoration for a new generation and invited an eager public to embrace the same vital endeavor by subscribing to the sane interests and initiating restorations in their own communities, a noble discipline that the CDA has always embraced since its inception in 1890.

Our Parent Chapter does than all that great work that is outwardly visible to us, it evokes from its members those common threads of leadership passed down from ancestors of old. And now, in this day, it emerges as promoters of education by way of scholarship, historical endeavors in preservation and public teaching. And now, even as the mantle of leadership is being passed to new Chapter Officers, we will stay the course and work alongside them to ensure that we never set aside that noble pursuit which has been opened to us. WE have an obligation of setting a fresh example for the next generation as a guideline to good community stewardship.

We are blessed to be members of this society of women who in the words of our founder, Mrs. John King Van Rensselaer, are a "patriotic society descended from colonial ancestry."

CHAPTER XXXII-Central Missouri

Chartered in 2007

Officers 2014-2015

PresidentSally N. Bueno
 First Vice-President Iola N. Smith
 Treasurer..... Joan T. Sorrels
 Recording Secretary..... Sappington Cunningham
 Corresponding Secretary..... Sappington Cunningham
 RegistrarMilamari O. Cunningham

Chapter XXXII Central Missouri has 32 members and meets regularly. We continue to have interesting programs throughout the year.

CHAPTER XXXIII-Georgia Piedmont

Chartered in 2011

Officers 2014-2015

President..... Lynn E. Brackey
 First Vice-President Rachel B. Tribble
 Treasurer Rachel B. Tribble
 Recording Secretary Dr. Susan C. Power
 Corresponding SecretaryBonnell W. Lashley
 Registrar..... Robin R. Towns

The William Harris Homestead Plantation located in Monroe, Georgia consisting of 500 acres was formed from the 1820 Land Lottery in Georgia. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as a Walton County Historic Landmark and as a Georgia Centennial Heritage Farm. The log house and smokehouse remain sufficiently intact depicting the culture and lives of the early inhabitants of Walton County. Supporting the Homestead is the primary project of CDA Chapter XXXIII, Georgia Piedmont. The Managing Director of the Homestead indicated that permanent outdoor signage was needed to provide information to property visitors. From June 2014 through April 2015 the Chapter provided two cast aluminum signs at a cost of \$1264. The first permanent sign measuring 18 x 24 provides information related to the history of the log house and its construction (circa 1825). The second cast aluminum sign measuring 16 x 22 was erected by the smokehouse with information regarding meat preservation in the nineteenth century.

CDA Chapter XXXIII, Georgia Piedmont meets in June, October, January and March of each year at 11:00 AM. Meeting at the Homestead in October has become a tradition. The three remaining meetings were held at the Monroe Golf and Country Club in Monroe, Georgia. At each Chapter meeting the Book Award Committee Chairman encourages members to read from the list provided by the CDA Book Award Committee and to submit reviews. Each meeting includes seasonal decorations provided by hostesses who also serve as greeters. Each meeting is followed by lunch. Within a few days of each Chapter meeting, a newsletter including photographs, highlights and announcements is delivered electronically to members.

Mr. Steve Brown presented an interesting program on “Monroe, Then and Now” at the annual meeting, June 2014. A tour of the historic Davis-Edwards House followed the meeting. Mrs. Gail Huie-Smith, Curator, accepted members’ contributions of \$250 to be used for green supplies and other pertinent needs. The membership approved the Board’s decision to donate \$500 to the Roswell Historical Society in support of their project to erect a memorial to the Native American Indian. The Chapter’s name was inscribed on the marker and members were present for the unveiling in July. The Special Projects Committee presented to the membership the beautifully framed Chapter Charter, an important part of our chapter history.

The Southeastern Regional Workshop moderated by Mrs. Brantley Knowles, CDA Second Vice President General, was held in Atlanta, Georgia on, Wednesday, 09 July 2014 with four CDA chapters participating including Chapter XXXIII, Georgia Piedmont. “Triumphs and Challenges” was the assigned topic for chapter reports. Mrs. Knowles shared the history of CDA and discussion included membership, chapter projects, and programs. The meeting was followed by lunch.

In October 2014 Mrs. Gail East presented “Earthworms and Honeybees: How Jamestown Helped Change the Ecology of North America”. The Historic Preservation Chairman reported on the Compact of 1802 between Georgia and United States. Organizing President, Robin Towns, was nominated for the Van Rensselaer Award for Distinguished Service. The application was submitted along with a \$250 gift to the Society.

A historical report, “The Thirteen Colonies and the Bill of Rights”, was delivered to the membership electronically during the month of November 2015.

Mrs. Cindi Crane, author of *Roswell Redemption*, presented the program, “Roswell Remembered” at the January 2015 meeting. The program focused on the Cherokee Indian and their plight when they were forced to leave Georgia on the Trail of Tears. Chapter members agreed to make a \$500 donation to the Mount Vernon Museum and Gardens in order to qualify as a Chapter Honor Roll member. A Nominating Committee was appointed to select a slate of officers for the 2015 – 2017 administration. The Committee

will report to the membership prior to the June 2015 meeting when installation is scheduled.

In March 2015 at the Monroe Golf and Country Club Dr. Priscilla Doster presented the program, "Colonial Women". It was announced that Robin Towns was approved as a deserving recipient of the Van Rensselaer Award for Distinguished Service. The Historic Preservation Chairman gave a report on "1775" pertaining to Patrick Henry and Ben Franklin.

Commemorating the 190th anniversary of Lafayette's visit to Georgia, a summary of that event entitled "The Marquis de Lafayette in Georgia" was delivered to the membership electronically in April 2015.

Supporting the CDA Society and the Mount Vernon Museum and Gardens, providing educational opportunities, commemorating the events of the thirteen original colonies and creating popular interest in American History have been the goals of CDA Chapter XXXIII, Georgia Piedmont during the past year. All of our accomplishments have been achieved by the efforts of a talented Board, enthusiastic Committee Chairmen and the generous support of the membership.

CDA Chapter XXXIII, Georgia Piedmont with fifty-three members and twelve prospective members will celebrate its fourth anniversary in April 2015. Average attendance at each meeting is twenty-six.

CHAPTER XXXIV-Arkansas

Chartered in 2012

Officers 2014-2015

President.....	Mary G. Warner
First Vice-President	Mary-Nelson M. White
Treasurer	Jean-Rae M. Hirsch
Recording Secretary	Jean S. Pollard
Corresponding Secretary	Margaret T. Dill
Registrar.....	Betty L. Harp

Chapter XXXIV meets twice a year in September and March in Little Rock at Best Impressions Restaurant at the Arkansas Arts Center for lunch, meeting and a program. The programs help us know more about our organization, our state and the colonial period.

In October we were honored to have President General Sharon Vaino and her husband attend a luncheon in Little Rock. She provided more information on CDA which was beneficial to us. We were very pleased that she wanted to visit our state and get to know the members of Chapter XXXIV. Vice-President Jean Pollard presented an "Arkansas Travelers" certificate signed by the Governor to them.

For our September meeting we toured the McCullum-Chidester House Museum and the Powell-Dietrich House in Camden, Arkansas where a catered lunch was served. Jean Hirsch and Virginia Frost made the arrangements for this event. At our March meeting, Linda White talked about the meeting with President General Vaino and about CDA. Our Chaplain, Frankie Ochsner, held a memorial service for two of our members who died in 2014, Beverly J. Powers and Juanita Kay Craft.

Since growing our membership remains a primary focus, we are pleased our Registrar, Mary Anne Riehart, announced Marie Dugan as a new member. Several other papers are in process. The Project Committee under the direct of Jerrie Townsend, Chairman, took a total of \$286 to the Hot Springs CBOX Veterans Unit in condiments and books.

Linda Vandenberg White will represent our chapter at the 125th Annual Meeting in May, and one of our new members, Paulette Lollar, plans to attend the Heritage Tea in April in Washington, D.C.

It was an honor to represent our chapter at the District meeting of the Guild of Colonial Artists and Tradesmen, 1607-1785, the Annual George Washington Birthday Observance and the State Council of the National Society Daughters of 1812. All three events, held at the Hot Springs Country Club, recognized other members of our chapter. We are promoting CDA in Arkansas.

CHAPTER XXXV-Jacksonville

Chartered in 2013

Officers 2014-2015

President.....	Rebecca Lockhart
First Vice-President	Pam Moore
Treasurer	Mary Soderstrum
Recording Secretary	Jodie Raymond
Corresponding Secretary	Jodie Raymond
Registrar.....	Mary Ellen Boyd

The Colonial Dames of America Chapter XXXV in Jacksonville, Florida, continues to grow with members busily furthering the purpose of our National Society in Northeast Florida. The Claims Committee recently accepted a new service for membership. One of Chapter XXXV’s applicant’s ancestor was a scout in New Netherlands. This applicant and several others are currently completing their applications and we anticipate several new members soon.

CDA members, serving as Jacksonville Ladies at the National Cemetery in Jacksonville, attended burials insuring that no Veteran is buried alone. Holiday wreaths were donated by Chapter XXXV to the “Holiday Wreaths Across America” project in December. The wreaths were placed on the graves of our fallen heroes interred in the Jacksonville National cemetery. We are currently researching the possibility of placing a bench on the grounds of the National Cemetery.

Florida now has five Colonial Dames of America chapters scattered throughout the State and is proud of the service provided by the CDA Membership.

CHAPTER XXXVI-Texas Hill Country

Chartered in 2013

Officers 2014-2015

President.....	Corrine C. Staacke
First Vice-President.....	Peggy N. Jared
Treasurer	Marsha A. Jernigan
Recording Secretary	Mary E. Eck
Corresponding Secretary	Linda H. Ogle
Registrar.....	Betty C. Hutzler

Our Chapter is in the second year and we have been building our base of lovely ladies starting with sixteen charter members and growing to presently thirty six members and sixteen prospective members. Our meetings are well attended at the Petroleum Club with members traveling from Corpus Christi, Blanco, Brownville, Castroville, Fredericksburg, Austin, and Waco.

We have printed our year book with our bylaws enclosed.

We are in the process of finding other worthy causes to support besides the Hondo Museum. We donated money to the Hondo Museum in both our first and second years and plan to make a donation annually.

We have been reviewing the recently published award winning book, “Galvez” by Judge Edward Butler, which we will nominate to Colonial Dames of America for an award in the coming year.

We will end this year with a Christmas party at the historic Guenther Mill located on the San Antonio River.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA
PRESIDENTS GENERAL
SINCE 1890

1890-1897 †Mrs. Archibald Gracie King
1897-1898 †Mrs. William Warner Hoppin
1898-1904 †Mrs. John Lyon Gardiner
1904-1908 †Mrs. James Watson Gerard
1908-1909 †Mrs. Edward King
1909-1911 †Mrs. Paul Dana
1911-1923 †Mrs. Timothy Matlack Cheesman
1923-1925 †Mrs. Henry P. Loomis
1925-1931 †Mrs. Charles Lawrence Riker
1931-1934 †Mrs. Decoursey Fales
1934-1938 †Mrs. Harry Horton Benkard
1938-1940 †Mrs. William Warner Hoppin
1940-1944 †Mrs. John Moore Dickinson
1944-1946 †Mrs. Henry Morgan Post
1946-1949 †Miss C. Livingston Van Rensselaer Strong
1949-1950 †Mrs. John B. Trevor
1950-1951 †Mrs. Samuel W. Lambert
1951-1953 †Mrs. Madison H. Lewis (Mrs. W. Leicester Van Leer)
1953-1956 †Mrs. Byron Stookey (Mrs. Robert J. Lewis)
1956-1960 †Mrs. John Kean
1960-1962 †Mrs. J. Campbell Henry (Mrs. Bearn Smith)
1962-1966 †Mrs. Alan T. Schumacher
1966-1970 †Mrs. Charles J. Irwin
1970-1974 †Mrs. John J. Trask
1974-1978 Mrs. Iredell W. Iglehart, Jr.
1978-1982 Mrs. Andrew J. Miller
1982-1985 Mrs. George Griswold
1985-1988 Mrs. Franklin Bache Satterthwaite
1988-1991 †Mrs. Edward Sprague Jones
1991-1994 Mrs. H. Dawson Penniman
1994-1995 Mrs. Thomas P. Bispham
1995-1997 †Mrs. David A. Bird
1997-2000 Mrs. Robert C. Evans, Jr.
2000-2003 Mrs. J. Sinclair Armstrong
2003-2006 Mrs. Gerald K. Geddes
2006-2009 Mrs. Sten G. Svensson
2009-2012 Mrs. James A. Jones

†Deceased

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

Board of Managers and Officers

2015-2016

Sharon W. Vaino.....	President General
Beverley W. Sherrid.....	First Vice-President
Brantley C.B. Knowles.....	Second Vice-President
Jane H. Told.....	Treasurer
M.P. Naud.....	Recording Secretary
Sandra S. Pearl.....	Corresponding Secretary

Laurie C. Aldinger	Carol Degener Lynch
Catherine C. Brawer	Kathleen Elizabeth Springhorn
Mary Raye Casper	Charlotte Squarcy
Charlotte J. Christian	Linda L. Waterhouse
Margaret K. Ivancevich	

Beverley W. Sherrid, *Registrar General*

CHAPTER OFFICERS

2015-2016

Chapter I - Baltimore, Maryland

President.....	Martha C. Peter
First Vice-President.....	Marguerite Jones
Treasurer.....	Jane S. Kennedy
Recording Secretary.....	Caroline M. Wayner
Corresponding Secretary.....	Caroline M. Wayner
Registrar.....	Jean S. Kouwenhoven

Chapter II – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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First Vice-President.....	Jane M. Eppley
Treasurer.....	Eleanor T. Penniman
Recording Secretary.....	Anna K. Iredale
Corresponding Secretary.....	Anna K. Iredale
Registrar.....	Sharon D. Holt

Chapter III - Washington, DC

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First Vice-President.....	Pricilla T. Roberts
Second Vice-President.....	Jane M. McSwain
Treasurer.....	Martina P. Caputy
Recording Secretary.....	Christie A. Martin
Corresponding Secretary.....	Linda H. Aguirre
Registrar.....	Barbara H. Carpenter

Chapter IV - Paris, France

President	Marina Eloy-Jacquillat
First Vice-President	Evelyn S. Cheuvreux
Treasurer	Stephanie P. de La Rochefoucauld
Recording Secretary	Susan F. Train
Corresponding Secretary	Susan F. Train
Registrar	Evelyn S. Cheuvreux

Chapter V - San Francisco, California

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First Vice-President	Sahron W. Garrison
Treasurer	Carol W. Kleyensteuber
Recording Secretary	Sandra R. Schaad
Corresponding Secretary	Sandra R. Schaad
Registrar	Rebecca S. Viebrock

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President	Martha W. Johnson
First Vice-President	Evelyne C. Taylor
Treasurer	Georgia F. Hodgson
Recording Secretary	Mary H. Richard
Corresponding Secretary	Mary H. Richard
Registrar	Martha H. Thompson

Chapter VII - Nashville, Tennessee

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Second Vice-President	Barbara A. McCoin
Treasurer	Joan L. Cherry
Recording Secretary	Elizabeth A. Campbell
Corresponding Secretary	Elizabeth W. James
Registrar	Sondra G. Lee

Chapter VIII - Houston, Texas

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First Vice-President	Julia deBerardinis
Second Vice-President	Gina C. Bouchard
Treasurer	Olga McLaren
Recording Secretary	Cindy L. Rucker
Corresponding Secretary	Laura H. Taylor
Registrar	Evelyn C. Aucoin

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First Vice-President	Willie Jean R. Moore
Treasurer	Nancy H. Lutz
Recording Secretary	Alice Taylor
Corresponding Secretary	Julia C. Robertson
Registrar	Sharon L. Clouse

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President	Sharrilyn Whiting De Masi
First Vice President	Flavia O. Accolti-Gil
Treasurer.....	Ann Pulver Siravo
Recording Secretary	Sheila C. Danielli
Corresponding Secretary.....	Sheila C. Danielli
Registrar	Suzanne T. Festa

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First Vice-President	Nancy D. Gough
Second Vice-President.....	Barbara S. Carse
Treasurer.....	Barbara S. Carse
Recording Secretary	Linda L. Waterhouse
Corresponding Secretary.....	Nancy R. Rousset
Registrar	Christina V. Darell-Brown

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Treasurer.....	Patsy Limpus
Recording Secretary	Sue Rodgers Vesser
Corresponding Secretary.....	Mary Jo P. Mordhorst
Registrar	Lynn M. McCreery

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First Vice-President.....	Cathy B. Hedlund
Treasurer.....	Mary B. Frisch
Recording Secretary	Mary S. Mize
Corresponding Secretary.....	Mary S. Mize
Registrar	Vickie L. Smith

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First Vice-President.....	Helen H. Martin
Second Vice-President	Clara G. Hoepfner
Treasurer.....	Anne E. Burket
Recording Secretary	Sandra O. Polito
Corresponding Secretary.....	Luanne F. Bruckner
Registrar	Jane Cates

Chapter XV - Jackson, Mississippi

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First Vice President	Ann A. Simmons
Treasurer.....	Virginia Coleman
Recording Secretary	Betty S. Bradley
Corresponding Secretary.....	Carolyn N. Howard
Registrar	Ann R. King

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First Vice-President.....	Nan S. Keith
Second Vice-President.....	Avo T. Davidson
Treasurer.....	Myrtle L. Van Dyke
Recording Secretary.....	Donna S. Luepker
Corresponding Secretary.....	Donna S. Luepker
Registrar.....	Raygena K. Garringer

Chapter XVII - Palm Beach, Florida

President.....	Corinne M. Schoeller
First Vice-President.....	Edith B. Eglin
Second Vice-President.....	Lucy H. Bauer
Treasurer.....	Grace G. Brown
Recording Secretary.....	Joette S. Keen
Corresponding Secretary.....	Donna L. George
Registrar.....	Lucy H. Bauer

Chapter XVIII - Springfield, Ohio

President.....	Mary S. Miller
First Vice-President.....	Cynthia H. Valente
Treasurer.....	Jeanne H. Lampe-Ray
Recording Secretary.....	Cynthia H. Valente
Corresponding Secretary.....	Lynne H. Linn
Registrar.....	Mary S. Miller

Chapter XIX – Florida Everglades

President.....	Maureen M. McGowan-Singer
First Vice-President.....	Virginia B. Fletcher
Second Vice-President.....	Marilyn J. Giancola
Treasurer.....	Barbara E. Messere
Recording Secretary.....	Dona R. Zuckerman
Corresponding Secretary.....	Patricia P. Sikes
Registrar.....	Marsha L. Love

Chapter XX - Los Angeles, California

President.....	Cheryl M. Sesma
First Vice-President.....	Jan H. Gordon
Treasurer.....	Shirley K. Arendt
Recording Secretary.....	Elizabeth B. Breithaupt
Corresponding Secretary.....	Diana C. Robertson
Registrar.....	Catherine B. Matranga

Chapter XXI - Dallas, Texas

President.....	Karen M. McClendon
First Vice-President.....	Mary B. De Shazo
Treasurer.....	Hallie P. Garner
Recording Secretary.....	Denise F. Cervantes
Corresponding Secretary.....	Denise F. Cervantes
Registrar.....	Linda T. Juba

Chapter XXII - Michigan

President	Carolyn B. Levin
First Vice-President	Barbara H. Balow
Second Vice-President	Audrey D. Lambert
Treasurer	Diane L. McNamara
Recording Secretary	Kay M. Gines
Corresponding Secretary	Elizabeth H. Edwards
Registrar	Barbara Hofmann

Chapter XXIII - Virginia

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First Vice-President	Courtenay T. Altaffer
Second Vice-President	Mary S. Plaster
Treasurer	Celeste A. Wheelwright
Recording Secretary	Elizabeth T. Courts
Corresponding Secretary	Jocelyn M. Lance
Registrar	Walta M. Warren

Chapter XXIV - Atlanta, Georgia

President	Helen H. Rogge
First Vice-President	Charlotte J. Christian
Second Vice-President	Martha H. Wright
Treasurer	Georgia B. Stitt
Recording Secretary	Christina W. Morris
Corresponding Secretary	Marion S. Bunker
Registrar	Marian Q. Brannen

Chapter XXV - Phoenix, Arizona

President	Crystal C. Rimsza
First Vice-President	Margaret H. Boyd
Treasurer	Elizabeth H. Degnan
Recording Secretary	Sarah W. Hlavay
Corresponding Secretary	Sarah W. Hlavay
Registrar	Susan G. Kreckler

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First Vice-President	Julia B. Scheibe
Second Vice-President	Sarah M. Jordan
Treasurer	Sarah M. Jordan
Recording Secretary	Rosemary D. Sanders
Corresponding Secretary	Rosemary D. Sanders
Registrar	Jennifer J. Mery

Chapter XXVIII - Melbourne, Florida

President	Roberta C. Hoffmann
First Vice-President	Nelle H. Mussler
Second Vice-President	Eleanor B. Renuart
Treasurer	Nancy B. Caldwell
Recording Secretary	Janet P. Kemerait
Corresponding Secretary	Joanne C. Humphries
Registrar	Elizabeth D. Michael

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President	Noel L. Baucom
First Vice-President	Polly H. Jarrett
Treasurer	Lee T. Shugrue
Recording Secretary	Laura J. Howell
Corresponding Secretary	Laura J. Howell
Registrar	Jo B. Baxley

Chapter XXX – Venice, Florida

President	Janice B. Murnan
First Vice-President	Linda W. Paul
Treasurer	Debra H. McMurry
Recording Secretary	Carol W. Cornell
Corresponding Secretary	Carol W. Cornell
Registrar	Alice T. Hornback

Chapter XXXI – South Carolina

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Second Vice-President	Catherine H. Hyman
Treasurer	Theresa H. Johnson
Recording Secretary	Margaret B. Wolfe
Corresponding Secretary	Sally E. Flinn
Registrar	Laurie C. Aldinger

Chapter XXXII – Central Missouri

President	Nelta Q. Cherry
First Vice-President	Sappington Cunningham
Treasurer	Iola N. Smith
Recording Secretary	Betty Lou W. McAtee
Corresponding Secretary	Betty Lou W. McAtee
Registrar	Milamari O. Cunningham

Chapter XXXIII – Georgia Piedmont

President	Linda O. Harvey
First Vice-President.....	Bonnie W. Lashley
Treasurer.....	Camille R. Baxter
Recording Secretary	Penelope T. Smith
Corresponding Secretary.....	Amelia R. Pelton
Registrar	Robin R. Towns

Chapter XXXIV– Arkansas

President	Mary G. Warner
First Vice-President.....	Jean S. Pollard
Treasurer.....	Jean-Rae M. Hirsch
Recording Secretary	Teresa A. Clark
Corresponding Secretary.....	Jacqueline G. Downs
Registrar	Donna C. Winkleman

Chapter XXXV– Jacksonville

President	Rebecca E. Lockhart
First Vice-President.....	Lois B. Swan
Treasurer.....	Mary G. Soderstrum
Recording Secretary	Johanne H. Raymond
Corresponding Secretary.....	Johanne H. Raymond
Registrar	Mary J. Boyd

Chapter XXXVI– Texas Hill Country

President	Corrine C. Staacke
First Vice-President.....	Peggy C. Jared
Treasurer.....	Marsha P. Jernigan
Recording Secretary	Mary D. Eck
Corresponding Secretary.....	Linda H. Ogle
Registrar	Betty C. Hutzler

Chapter XXXVII– New Orleans

President	Julia French Wood
First Vice-President.....	Emily D. Smith
Treasurer.....	Emily D. Smith
Recording Secretary	Mary C. Millan
Corresponding Secretary.....	Mary C. Millan
Registrar	Marcia R. Baird

IN MEMORIAM

2014-2015

Parent Chapter

Angier, Nancy H. Scarborough
Barbey, Lillian June Manger
Bramwell, Elizabeth Reed
Dixon-Miller, Shirley
Feder, Abigail Lispernard Jones
Goltra, Gail Wright
Holmes, Ruth Ellen Lord
Perkins, Sarah Havemeyer
Phillips, Jessie Vale Ewing
Shields, Margaret McNeely
Tuttle, Esther Woodruff Leeming (Faity)

Chapter I

Barton, Meta Margaret Packard
Young, Elizabeth Welsh

Chapter V

Mac Duff, Janet Allen

Chapter VII

Hilyer, Mary Jane Cook
James, Rebecca Ruth Seat
Salmon, Mary Maxine Bozeman

Chapter VIII

Johnson, Esther Kathleen Grayson
Nichols, Charlotte Ann Westervelt

Chapter IX

Horn, Alice Rebecca Woolton
Marshall, Nell Jo Click
Swan, Frances May Goff

Chapter XII

Travilla, Mary Harriot Lott

Chapter XIII

Greenlease, Vera Laughlin
Johnson, Paula M. Jennings
Liestman, Rose Leonora Holmberg
Willsey, Marjorie Lee Bell

Chapter XV

Keck, Trebbie Joel Puckett
Noble, Sara Gilman

Chapter XVI

Austin, Mary Carolyn Bartlett

Chapter XVII
Ballentine, Susan Jane Miller
Hildt, Dorothy Chapman Tremaine

Chapter XIX
Kincaid, Margaret Graham

Chapter XX
De Ciccio, Patricia Ann Roeder
Wheeler, Beatrice Geraldine Hartshom

Chapter XXI
Austin, Regina Frances Lisle
Kelso, Helen Virginia Burleson

Chapter XXII
Dulude, Dorothy Flint
Edson, Joyce Marie Baker

Chapter XXIII
Hoxton, Ruth de Windt
Peyton, Gertrude Bayne Breckinride
Scott, Elizabeth Temple Shepherd

Chapter XXIV
Hendrix, Corrie Hoyt
Williams, Velma Cleo Dansby

Chapter XXVII
Baughn, Anna Letyr Proctor
Gallemore, Doris Vivian Bond

Chapter XXIX
Bulloch, Anne Boyd Whitaker
Hobbs, Elizabeth Deane Haw
Skinner, Sue Olive Dossett

Chapter XXXIV
Powers, Beverly Jean Grenier

Chapter XXXVII
Barry, Natalie Ann Blackstone

**as reported up to July 16, 2015*

General Fund

I bequeath to The Colonial Dames of America, incorporated April 13, 1891, under the laws of the State of New York, the sum of _____dollars, for its general purposes.

Education and Scholarship Fund

I bequeath to The Colonial Dames of America, incorporated April 13, 1891, under the laws of the State of New York, the sum of _____dollars, for the purposes of the Education and Scholarship Fund.

Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden

I bequeath to the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden, New York, the sum of _____dollars, for its general purposes.

Remembrance Fund

Contributions may be made to The Colonial Dames of America in memory of deceased members and their families. These gifts, tax deductible, can be designated for various activities in which the member would have been particularly interested: Education and Scholarship, Genealogical Research, Garden and Grounds, Library and Archives, Museum, or the General Endowment Fund.

Parent Chapter.....	New York, New York
Chapter I.....	Baltimore, Maryland
Chapter II.....	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Chapter III.....	Washington, D.C.
Chapter IV.....	Paris, France
Chapter V.....	San Francisco, California
Chapter VI.....	Shreveport, Louisiana
Chapter VII.....	Nashville, Tennessee
Chapter VIII.....	Houston, Texas
Chapter IX.....	Lexington, Kentucky
Chapter X.....	Rome, Italy
Chapter XI.....	London, England
Chapter XII.....	St. Louis, Missouri
Chapter XIII.....	Kansas City, Missouri
Chapter XIV.....	Chicago, Illinois
Chapter XV.....	Jackson, Mississippi
Chapter XVI.....	Des Moines, Iowa
Chapter XVII.....	Palm Beach, Florida
Chapter XVIII.....	Springfield, Ohio
Chapter XIX.....	Florida Everglades
Chapter XX.....	Los Angeles, California
Chapter XXI.....	Dallas, Texas
Chapter XXII.....	Michigan
Chapter XXIII.....	Virginia
Chapter XXIV.....	Atlanta, Georgia
Chapter XXV.....	Phoenix, Arizona
Chapter XXVI.....	Austin, Texas
Chapter XXVII.....	San Antonio, Texas
Chapter XXVIII.....	Melbourne, Florida
Chapter XXIX.....	North Carolina
Chapter XXX.....	Venice, Florida
Chapter XXXI.....	South Carolina
Chapter XXXII.....	Central Missouri
Chapter XXXIII.....	Georgia Piedmont
Chapter XXXIV.....	Arkansas

Chapter XXXV.....Jacksonville
Chapter XXXIV Texas Hill Country
Chapter XXXIV New Orleans

Committees

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Laurie C. Aldinger, *Chair*
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Brantley C.B. Knowles
Caroline McLain

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Marilee Reiner
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Brantley Knowles
Rebecca Madsen

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Mary Raye Casper
Jeannine S. Kallal
Robin R. Towns

*Maria Dering

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Pamela T. Danon
Beverly W. Sherrid
Alicia S. Woodeson

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Sharon W. Vaino, *Ex-Officio/President General*

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Brantley C. Knowles
Beverly W. Sherrid
Heather Speas

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Sharrilyn Whiting
Helen C. Evans
Rebecca H. Madsen
Priscilla T. Roberts
Beverly W. Sherrid
Kathleen Elizabeth Springhorn
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Jane H. Told
*Terri J. Daly

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Beverly C. Harman
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Caroline McLain
Sandra S. Pearl
Alice M. Stuart

Events, Calendar and Hospitality Committee

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Beverly C. Harman
Amoret T. Jorgensen
Lynette M. Jaffee
Audrey A. Svensson
Jane H. Told

Finance Committee

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Jane H. Told, *Ex-Officio/Treasurer*

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Carol M. Lynch
Sandra S. Pearl
Beverly W. Sherrid

Garden and Grounds Committee

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Sally B. Lee
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M.P. Naud
Marilee Reiner
Beverly W. Sherrid
Mary Anne Tilney
Linda V. White

*Terri J. Daly
*Christine Rother

Juniors Liaison Committee

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Sharon W. Vaino, *Ex-Officio/President General*

Christy Beth
Irene Grassi Osborne
Sandra Schaad

**Liason Committee: Chapter Development, Regional Activities,
and Inter-Society Interactions**

Brantley C.B. Knowles, *Chair*

Sharon W. Vaino, *Ex-Officio/President General*

Laurie C. Aldinger
Charlotte J. Christian
Janet P. Kemerait
Heather W. Speas

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Sharrilyn Whiting
Anne S. Pierson

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Sharon W. Vaino, *Ex-Officio/President General*

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Christine Y. Jones
Beverly W. Sherrid
Melinda H. Waterhouse

Museum Committee

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Helen C. Evans
Lynette M. Jaffee
Christine Y. Jones
M.P. Naud
Beverly W. Sherrid
Jane H. Told
*Terri J. Daly

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Susan S. Hawes
Caroline McLain
Beverly W. Sherrid
Jane H. Told

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Jane H. Told, *Ex-Officio/Treasurer*

Mary R. Barnes
Brantley C.B. Knowles
Carol M. Lynch

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Charlotte J. Christian
Helen C. Evans
Janet P. Kemerait
Brantley C.B. Knowles
Patricia P. Kryder
Beverley W. Sherrid
Heather W. Speas
Audrey A. Svensson
Melinda H. Waterhouse
Beverley W. Young

*Non-CDA Member

**THE COLONIAL DAMES
OF AMERICA**

**Financial Statements
for the year ended
March 31, 2015
(with Summarized
Comparative Information for 2014)**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Managers of
The Colonial Dames of America

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Colonial Dames of America ("the Society") which comprise the statement of financial position as of March 31, 2015 and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to in the first paragraph on the previous page present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Colonial Dames of America as of March 31, 2015 and the results of its activities and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited the Society's fiscal 2014 financial statements, and our report dated October 10, 2014 expressed an unmodified opinion on those audited financial statements. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended March 31, 2014, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Condon O'Meara McGinty + Donnelly LLP

October 1, 2015

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

Statement of Financial Position

Assets

	March 31	
	2015	2014
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 13,409	\$ 45,841
Investments, at fair value	6,336,554	6,212,322
Grants and accounts receivable, net	23,869	22,635
Inventory, at cost	23,302	25,569
Prepaid expenses	15,938	19,597
Total current assets	6,413,072	6,325,964
Property and equipment, net	2,086,900	2,078,625
Deferred expense	23,965	6,624
Total assets	\$ 8,523,937	\$ 8,411,213

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 26,071	\$ 17,119
Deferred revenue	23,480	28,545
Total current liabilities	49,551	45,664
Net assets		
Unrestricted	6,948,317	6,817,256
Temporarily restricted	648,222	670,446
Permanently restricted	877,847	877,847
Total net assets	8,474,386	8,365,549
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 8,523,937	\$ 8,411,213

See notes to financial statements.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

Statement of Activities
For Year Ended March 31, 2015
(with Summarized Comparative Information for the year ended March 31, 2014)

	2015		2014				
	Unrestricted		Temporarily Restricted				
	General Fund	E.W. Taylor Museum & Gordon Hotel	Scholarship Educaion Restricted Fund	Building Reserve Fund	Total Temporarily Restricted Fund	Permanently Restricted Scholarship Fund	Total all Funds
Support and revenue							
Support							
Grants	\$ 4,500	\$ 39,640	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,500
Contributions	37,200	35,028	72,278	17,974	2,171	95,559	306,493
Legislative	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,628
Total support	41,700	74,668	115,268	12,974	2,171	128,528	132,648
Revenue							
Membership dues	111,474	10,385	121,819	-	-	-	121,819
Interest on investments	14,792	1,426	16,218	-	-	-	16,218
Dividends	64,648	6,586	71,234	-	-	-	71,234
Site rentals	19,690	2,380	22,070	-	-	-	22,070
Chairs	19,690	-	19,690	-	-	-	19,690
Insights and other sales	11,738	-	11,738	-	-	-	11,738
Printing and functions	25,005	-	25,005	-	-	-	25,005
Bookings and functions	34,733	-	34,733	-	-	-	34,733
Other revenue	20,794	-	20,794	-	-	-	20,794
Museum admissions, tours and gift shop sales	1,271	5,545	7,216	-	-	-	7,216
Other revenue	17,100	28,885	45,985	(78,383)	(65,985)	-	933
Net assets released from restrictions	48,324	113,522	(17,100)	(78,383)	(65,985)	-	49,461
Net assets, beginning of year	483,254	200,028	655,252	(5,520)	(24,240)	-	853,112
Total support and revenue	314,045	314,045	314,045	314,045	314,045	314,045	314,045
Expenses							
Program services							
CDAs programs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Museum programs and activities	375,897	375,897	-	-	-	-	375,897
Building reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Site rentals	17,100	-	-	-	-	-	17,100
Subscriptions	331,145	331,145	-	-	-	-	331,145
Total program services	208,343	208,343	208,343	-	-	-	208,343
Supporting services	33,284	33,284	33,284	-	-	-	33,284
General and administrative	37,525	37,525	37,525	-	-	-	37,525
Fund-raising and fundraising services	546,538	408,281	954,819	-	-	-	954,819
Total expenses	(89,120)	(700,293)	(290,455)	(5,520)	(72,245)	(371,202)	(371,202)
(Deficiency) of support and revenue over expenses	147,792	147,792	147,792	147,792	147,792	147,792	147,792
Net revenue over expenses	253,949	253,949	253,949	253,949	253,949	253,949	253,949
Realized gain on investments	(171,665)	(171,665)	(171,665)	(171,665)	(171,665)	(171,665)	(171,665)
Net unrealized gain on investments	250,245	250,245	430,546	-	-	-	430,546
Net assets, end of year	131,061	131,061	131,061	(5,500)	(6,411)	(108,537)	131,061
Net assets, beginning of year	3,126,184	3,126,184	3,126,184	3,126,184	3,126,184	3,126,184	3,126,184
Net assets, end of year	\$ 2,287,245	\$ 4,691,062	\$ 3,855,224	\$ 207,549	\$ 5,449	\$ 877,847	\$ 4,842,586

See notes to financial statements.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

Statement of Functional Expenses
For Year Ended March 31, 2015
(with Summarized Comparative Information for the year ended March 31, 2014)

	2015					2014	
	Program Services			Supporting Services		Total	Total
	CDA Programs	Museum Programs and Activities	Scholarship Programs	General and Administrative	Fund-Raising		
Salaries, payroll taxes and employee benefits	\$ 155,504	\$ 212,809	\$ -	\$ 40,198	\$ 30,745	\$ 439,056	\$ 448,505
Temporary help	3,010	2,828	-	-	1,155	6,993	5,285
Professional fees	36,653	39,873	-	21,967	590	99,083	126,239
Programs and events	24,124	2,763	-	5	5,482	32,374	28,345
Scholarships and fellowships	1,000	5,500	17,100	-	-	23,600	23,500
Professional development	-	522	-	-	-	522	750
Insurance	11,157	22,315	-	11,157	-	44,629	38,417
Telephone and internet	1,849	4,345	-	2,638	-	8,832	10,559
Travel	2,802	1,326	-	-	81	4,209	3,745
Insignias and other	7,606	-	-	-	-	7,606	10,906
Office expenses	4,833	6,652	-	5,598	-	17,083	14,923
Custodial fees	-	-	-	73,662	-	73,662	57,258
Occupancy	13,279	54,147	-	13,279	-	80,705	66,920
Collection	-	2,853	-	-	-	2,853	3,085
Merchandise	651	5,078	-	411	10	6,150	9,006
Advertising and publicity	170	1,300	-	-	275	1,745	1,462
Printing	9,382	1,633	-	-	777	11,792	9,678
Postage	3,314	3,417	-	602	379	7,712	8,554
Newsletter and website	144	767	-	-	-	911	44
Depreciation	35,145	7,735	-	35,396	-	78,276	81,533
Other	3,622	34	-	3,430	-	7,086	4,714
Total expenses	\$ 314,045	\$ 375,897	\$ 17,100	\$ 208,343	\$ 39,494	\$ 954,879	\$ 953,628

See notes to financial statements.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

Statement of Cash Flows

	Year Ended	
	March 31	
	2015	2014
Cash flows from operating activities		
Increase in net assets	\$ 108,837	\$ 197,312
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash (used in) operating activities		
Depreciation	78,276	81,533
Net realized (gain) on sales of investments	(147,792)	(248,208)
Net unrealized (gain) loss on investments	(253,949)	(326,986)
(Increase) decrease in current assets		
Grants and accounts receivable	(1,234)	(5,298)
Inventory	2,267	1,678
Prepaid expenses	3,659	(1,667)
Increase (decrease) in current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	8,952	1,490
Deferred revenue	(5,065)	(4,350)
(Increase) in deferred expenses	(17,341)	(6,624)
Net cash (used in) operating activities	<u>(223,390)</u>	<u>(311,120)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Expenditures for property and equipment	(86,551)	(50,261)
Proceeds from sale of investments	4,378,072	2,460,633
Purchase of investments	(4,100,563)	(2,145,184)
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>190,958</u>	<u>265,188</u>
Net (decrease) in cash	(32,432)	(45,932)
Cash, beginning of year	<u>45,841</u>	<u>91,773</u>
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 13,409</u>	<u>\$ 45,841</u>

See notes to financial statements.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

**Notes to Financial Statements
March 31, 2015**

Note 1 – Organization

This report is for the headquarters of The Colonial Dames of America (the “Society”) located in New York City. There are thirty-six affiliated chapters located in the United States and Europe. These chapters are loosely affiliated local organizations and are not included in the Headquarters report. One of the functions of the Society is to operate the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden (the “Museum”), which is owned and operated by the Society.

Note 2 – Summary of significant accounting policies

The Society maintains three classes of net assets as follows:

- Unrestricted net assets, which consist of funds available for operations and board-designated purposes.
 - General – Funds available for current operations. During the 2015 fiscal year, the Board of Managers approved a transfer of \$171,486 to the Mount Vernon Hotel Museums & Garden fund to fund the over expended fund balance.
 - Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden – Designated amounts available for programs and activities conducted by the Museum.
 - E.M. Taylor Endowment – Funds available to be used for educational and charitable purposes as designated by the Board of Managers.
- Temporarily restricted net assets, which consist of contributions to be used for designated purposes or future periods.
 - Scholarship Fund – Amounts restricted for scholarships for students engaged in areas of study relating to colonial history.
 - Hearst Fellowship and Education Restricted Fund – A grant from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation to establish Hearst fellowships for students in the fields of art history and decorative arts.
 - Building Reserve Fund – Amounts restricted for certain expenses associated with the Society’s buildings.
- Permanently restricted net assets, which consist of contributions, the principal of which is permanently restricted. The Society considers any investment revenue, including realized capital gains, in the permanently restricted net assets category to be unrestricted revenue used for Board determined educational and charitable purposes.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA**Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
March 31, 2015****Note 2 – Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**Revenue recognition

Unrestricted contributions, bequests and grants are recognized as revenue when the gift or cash is received. Contributions or grants restricted by the donor or relating to future events or periods are reflected as temporarily restricted until the restriction is satisfied, the event occurs or time lapses.

Cash equivalents

The Society considers highly liquid assets with original maturities of ninety days or less to be cash equivalents. As of March 31, 2015, the Society did not have any cash equivalents.

Property and equipment

Property and equipment expenditures above a nominal amount with a useful life greater than one year are capitalized and recorded at cost. Building improvements and furniture and fixtures are being depreciated on a straight-line basis over the estimated lives of the assets ranging from three to forty years. Depreciation has not been provided for the Museum or historical museum fixtures since they are considered to be historically important, thereby increasing in value. During the 2015 fiscal year, the Society wrote-off fully depreciated assets no longer in use totaling \$10,000.

Allocation of expenses

The costs of providing the various programs and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited.

Concentrations of credit risk

The Society's financial instruments that are potentially exposed to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash, investments and receivables. The Society places its cash with what it believes to be quality financial institutions. The Society invests in money market funds, equities and mutual funds. Investments are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market volatility, liquidity and credit. Due to the level of uncertainty related to changes in interest rates, market volatility, liquidity and credit risks, it is reasonably possible that changes in these risks could materially affect the fair value of the investments reported in the statement of financial position as of March 31, 2015. The Society routinely assesses the financial strength of its holdings in its investment portfolio. The Society's receivables consist principally of amounts due from members and a grant receivable which management monitors on an ongoing basis. As a consequence, the Society believes no significant concentrations of credit risk exist with respect to its cash, investments and receivables.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA**Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
March 31, 2015****Note 2 – Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**Investments

The Society reports investments at fair value in the statement of financial position. The fair value of the investments is based on publicly quoted prices. Interest, dividends, realized and unrealized gains and losses are included in the statement of activities.

Allowance for doubtful accounts

As of March 31, 2015, the Society has an allowance for doubtful accounts of approximately \$7,600 for any possible uncollectible receivables. Such estimate is based on management's experience, the aging of the receivables, subsequent receipts and economic conditions.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Comparative financial information

The financial statements include certain prior-year summarized comparative information in total but not by net asset class or functional classification. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Society's financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2014, from which the summarized information was derived.

Subsequent events

The Society has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through October 1, 2015, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
March 31, 2015

Note 3 – Investments

The following is a summary of the investments at March 31, 2015 and March 31, 2014:

	<u>2015</u>		<u>2014</u>	
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
Money market funds	\$ 370,905	\$ 370,905	\$ 206,291	\$ 206,291
Equities				
Large Cap	1,010,456	1,404,614	1,177,850	1,507,237
Dividend Growth	1,140,579	1,489,806	1,237,963	1,510,255
Small/Mid Cap Growth	261,018	350,597	262,130	342,634
International Growth	542,513	572,651	571,433	619,142
Mutual funds				
Fixed income	1,236,174	1,236,926	1,193,700	1,131,111
Government and agency securities	<u>891,638</u>	<u>911,055</u>	<u>933,633</u>	<u>895,652</u>
Total	<u>\$ 5,453,283</u>	<u>\$ 6,336,554</u>	<u>\$ 5,583,000</u>	<u>\$ 6,212,322</u>

For assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of March 31, 2015, accounting standards require quantitative disclosures about the fair value measurements separately for each major class of assets. The Society's investments have all been classified in the highest level of hierarchy (Level 1). Its quoted prices are in active markets for identical assets.

Note 4 – Endowments

The Society reports its restricted net assets in accordance with accounting standards for Endowments and the New York Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act in administering and managing its endowment assets.

The Society's endowments consist of various individual funds established for a variety of purposes. Its endowment includes both donor-restricted endowment funds and funds designated by the Board of Managers. As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the Society to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
March 31, 2015

Note 4 – Endowments (continued)

Strategies employed for achieving objectives

The Society has adopted an investment policy with fundamental and primary investment objectives of due consideration given to optimum risk and preservation of capital. Under this policy, as approved by the Society, the Society's endowment is invested in a prudent manner with the objective to achieve a real rate of return of 5-7% over inflation for overall portfolio. In order to meet the investment objectives of the endowment, the assets shall be invested in equities and fixed income vehicles. The equity portion should range between 30% and 70% of the aggregate portfolio, with the remainder in fixed income.

For the 2015 fiscal year, the activity in the temporarily restricted funds is reflected on the statement of activities.

Note 5 – Property and equipment

The summary of the property and equipment as of March 31, 2015 and March 31, 2014 is as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Building and building improvements	\$2,912,087	\$2,875,957
Museum and historical museum fixtures	817,587	817,587
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	<u>331,920</u>	<u>291,499</u>
Total property and equipment	4,061,594	3,985,043
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>1,974,694</u>	<u>1,906,418</u>
Net property and equipment	<u>\$2,086,900</u>	<u>\$2,078,625</u>

Note 6 – Retirement plans

The Society maintains a 403(b) Thrift Plan (the "Plan"). Eligible employees may contribute to the plan up to the limitations established by the Internal Revenue Code. The Society matches employees' contributions to the plan in accordance with the Plan document. For the 2015 and 2014 fiscal years, the cost incurred in connection with the plan totaled \$5,481 and \$4,206, respectively.

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA**Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
March 31, 2015****Note 7 – Insurance proceeds**

During January 2015, the Society incurred extensive damage to the Museum's boiler as a result from a broken sprinkler system pipe. In connection therewith, the Society received \$56,967 of insurance proceeds. This amount, less \$28,162 of expenditures related to the claim is reflected as an other addition in the 2015 fiscal year statement of activities.

Note 8 – Tax status

The Society is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"). In addition, the Society is a Section 509(a)(1) organization as defined in the Code and is, therefore, not a private foundation and qualifies for the maximum charitable deduction for donors. As of March 31, 2015, no amounts have been recognized for uncertain income tax positions. The Society's tax returns for the fiscal year 2012 and forward are subject to the usual review by the appropriate taxing authorities.