

*Proceedings
of the Annual Meeting*

OCTOBER 21, 2005

ANTIQUARIAN HALL, WORCESTER

THE ONE-HUNDRED-AND-NINETY-THIRD annual meeting of the American Antiquarian Society was held in Worcester on Thursday, October 20 through Saturday, October 22, 2005. The following members were present: Lawrence Jay Abramoff, Eleanor Snow Adams, Charles H. B. Arning, Georgia Brady Barnhill, Robert Charles Baron, George Athan Billias, Sande Price Bishop, George Francis Booth II, Robert Carl Bradbury, Karl Lombard Briel, Ruth Bradlee Brooking, Richard David Brown, Irene Quenzler Brown, Nancy Hall Burkett, Randall Keith Burkett, Mary Valentine Crowley Callahan, Joanne Danaher Chaison, Fairman Chaffee Cowan, Patricia A. Crain, Leslie Kelly Cutler, Margery MacNeil Dearborn, Alan Nash Degutis, William Phillips Densmore, Jane Kenah Dewey, Henry Bowen Dewey, James Russell Donnelley, Thomas L. Doughton, Ellen Cary Smith Dunlap, Linwood Mandeville Erskine, Ann Vincent Fabian, Frederic Breakspear Farrar, Donald Farren, Richard Janney Fates, Rudy John Favretti, Richard Wightman Fox, Wayne Steven Franklin, Mark William Fuller, John Frederick Gately, Dorista Jones Goldsberry, John Bixler Hench, John Herron, Sr., John Herron, Jr., Thomas Aquinas Horrocks, Darrell Hyder, Matthew Richard Isenburg, John Jeppson 2nd, Daniel Spencer Jones, Lucia Zaucha Knoles, Thomas Gregory Knoles, Julian Lee Lapidus, Linda Zeva Fishman Lapidus, Sidney Lapidus, Crawford Lincoln, Leon Frank Litwack, John Worth Lund, Marcus Allen McCorison, Thomas Patrick McDermott, Ogretta Vaughn

McNeil, Harold Taylor Miller, Kenneth James Moynihan, Donald Frederick Nelson, Cynthia Nelson Pitcher, Jane Ramsey Pomeroy, Ann-Cathrine M. Rapp, Scott Richard Reisinger, Barnes Riznik, Andrew Whitmore Robertson, David M. Rumsey, Lance E. Schachterle, Daniel Gershon Siegel, Robert Hyde Smith, Albert Brown Southwick, William Francis Sullivan, Daniel Grant Tear, John W. Tyler, Alden True Vaughan, Meridith Daniels Wesby, and Susan B. Woodbury.

On Friday, October 21, 2005, at 5:00 p.m., the members convened in Antiquarian Hall for the annual meeting. Mrs. Wesby read the call of the meeting. Chairman Lapidés presided. The reading of the minutes of the semiannual meeting of April 22, 2005, was waived. Mr. Lapidés reported the following changes in membership.

John Melville Jennings, elected April 1964 (his death on December 22, 2004, came belatedly to the Society's attention)

Michael Harrison, elected October 1969, died on April 5, 2005 (at the age of 107, the Society's oldest member)

W. Robert Mill, elected October 1994, died September 21, 2005

Alvin M. Josephy, elected October 1977, died October 16, 2005

Reporting for Mrs. Hurley and the Nominating Committee, Ellen Dunlap proposed the following persons for election as Officers and Councillors: Chairman (2005-2006), Julian L. Lapidés; Vice Chairman (2005-2006), Sidney Lapidus; Treasurer (2005-2009), George W. Tetler III; Recording Secretary (2005-2009), John Herron, Jr.; Councillors (2005-2008), James C. Donnelly, Jody Gill, Kate Van Winkle Keller, J. Thomas Touchton, and Meridith D. Wesby

Mrs. Dunlap read aloud the names of the nominees for membership, and Mr. Lapidés appointed as tellers John Gately and Charles Arning.

Mr. Lapidés announced the election by ballot of the following persons to membership in the Society: Nancy R. Coolidge,

Jeanne Y. Curtis, George K. Fox, Gary Hart, Holly V. Izard, Suzanne Lebsock, Henry W. Lie, Stephen Loewentheil, Valerie S. Loring, Robert S. Martin, Mary Rhinelanders McCarl, John F. McClymer, Henry T. Michie, Karen Sanchez-Eppler, Beverly Sheppard, James Sidbury, Peter B. Stallybrass, and David L. Waldstreicher.

The report of the Treasurer was presented by James C. Donnelly, Jr.

Mr. Hench then read the following resolution that had been voted by the Council.

WHEREAS the contributions that any research library can make to culture, society, and posterity can be no greater than the strength of its bricks and mortar; its paper, leather, and binding thread; and its flesh and blood; and

WHEREAS THE STAFF OF THE AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, a research library founded by Isaiah Thomas one hundred and ninety-three years ago, is not only the flesh and blood of the Society, but also its heart and soul; and

WHEREAS the contributions of the STAFF of AAS to the research success of thousands of scholars and other readers, young and old, who have come from all around the country and the world to assay the riches that lie beneath the generous dome, have been widely acknowledged and praised; and

WHEREAS the American Antiquarian Society has recently been awarded another important grant of financial support by the Massachusetts Cultural Council with a rating of 99.4 percent—a statistical dead heat with the purity of Ivory Soap; and

Whereas the Cultural Council's panelists lavishly laced their recommendation with praise for the talent and accomplishments of the entire STAFF of AAS; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Officers, Councilors, and Members of the American Antiquarian Society do hereby, with pleasure and gratitude, congratulate these worthy successors to Isaiah Thomas

on the achievement of this important grant, thank the members of the STAFF for the great and good works they do for the Society and for the American people; and decree, that in recognition of their achievement, the members of the STAFF are each and every one of them mandated to take a personal Spree Day during the current fiscal year, and upon the records of the Society let this Resolution be inscribed and to THE STAFF OF THE SOCIETY let these sentiments be made known.

RESOLVED this twenty-first day of October, two thousand five, the one hundred ninety-third year of the Society.

The resolution was received with hearty applause.

Mrs. Dunlap gave the report of the Council, following which the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Meridith Daniels Wesby
Recording Secretary

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