

1973

Minutes of the Directors' Meeting, January 19, 1974

Florida Historical Society
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MINUTES OF THE DIRECTORS' MEETING

Florida Historical Society

The semi-annual meeting of the officers and board of directors of the Florida Historical Society was convened in the Board Room, Florida Technological University, Orlando, Florida, January 19, 1974, at 9:45 a.m., by President John E. Johns. Attending were Milton D. Jones, Thelma Peters, Alva L. Jones, Jay B. Dobkin, Samuel Proctor, Audrey Broward, Addie H. Emerson, Michel G. Emmanuel, David A. Forshay, Marty Grafton, John W. Griffin, James R. Knott, Eugene Lyon, John K. Mahon, Jessie Porter Newton, Sister Elizabeth Ann Rice, Jerrell H. Shofner, and G. Norman Simons. Absent were William Bevis, James G. Craig, and Anthony P. Pizzo. Dr. Johns welcomed the group, and extended a special word of welcome to Mrs. Emerson, Mrs. Grafton, and Mrs. Porter who were meeting with the board for the first time since their election at the annual meeting, May 1973. Judge James R. Knott of West Palm Beach was reelected to the board. Judge Knott has served previously as a director and as president of the Society.

The minutes of the previous board meeting, May 10, 1973, as published in the October 1973 issue of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, were approved. Dr. Johns informed the board that there had been a financial problem for the Florida Historical Society involving the embezzlement of funds. A member of the Library staff who was an employee of the University of South Florida confessed to this activity after Mrs. Mary Jane Kuhl discovered the discrepancies and brought them to the immediate attention of the authorities. Full restitution has now been made.

Dr. Johns reviewed the plans for the annual meeting in Tallahassee, May 2-4, 1974. The Downtown Holiday Inn will be convention headquarters. The invitation of the Historic Tallahassee Preservation Board for the directors to hold their meeting on the evening of May 2 at the Brokaw-McDougall House was accepted. Dr. William Warren Rogers, Florida State University, is in charge of local arrangements. Dr. Jerrell Shofner reported on the program on behalf of himself and his co-chairman, Dr. Herbert J. Doherty, Jr., of the University of Florida.

Dr. Proctor, editor, *Florida Historical Quarterly*, stated that matters relating to the journal were satisfactory. He hopes that a newsletter will be implemented soon so that there can be broader coverage of the activities of local and county historical societies, and that other matters which ordinarily appear in the History News section of the *Quarterly* will be available to all those interested in Florida history. Dr. Proctor asked board members to encourage the research and writing of Florida history articles. He announced that a grant of \$500 had been received from the Wentworth Foundation, Inc., through the efforts of William M. Goza. The money will be used for additional illustrative material in the *Quarterly*.

The financial report was approved. The Executive Committee is examining the feasibility of transferring Society funds to accounts that will result in a higher interest return. The purposes of the different funds of the Society were explained for the benefit of the new directors.

Dr. Proctor reported on the efforts of Dr. Charlton W. Tebeau to raise the necessary endowment funds so that an annual award can be given for the best young people's book on Florida history. About half of the needed amount has been collected, and Dr. Proctor urged that board members and others contribute to this fund. Checks should be mailed to Dr. Tebeau or to the Florida Historical Society office, University of South Florida Library, Tampa, Florida. Dr. Proctor also moved that the annual award be known henceforth as the Charlton W. Tebeau Book Award in recognition of Dr. Tebeau's many contributions to Florida history and of his years of service to the Florida Historical Society. The motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Proctor reviewed the history of the relationship of the Society and the University of South Florida and the efforts of the University to find a replacement for Mary Jane Kuhl who resigned as Executive Secretary and Society Librarian effective October 1, 1973. Jay B. Dobkin, the new Executive Secretary, was introduced, and he detailed some of the plans and goals that he is setting for the Society. He is presently cataloguing the Society's Library and manuscript and map collections. The Society's holdings will all carry a special bookplate and an identifying marker on the book spine. The directors approved Mr. Dobkin's

request to eliminate from the Society's Library out-of-date and worthless non-Florida material. Mr. Jones recommended that a catalog of the Society's book, manuscript, and map collections be published. Mr. Dobkin pledged his full support and cooperation in this project. He also called for a Florida Union Catalog listing unpublished Florida material in regional, county, and local historical society libraries. Local groups would report their acquisitions and accessions to the Society's librarian who would maintain a statewide manuscript data bank. Mr. Dobkin described the area that will be allotted to special collections and to the Florida Historical Society's Library in the new University of South Florida Library which is under construction. In answer to a director's question, Mr. Dobkin pointed out that his staff will make every effort to answer reasonable research questions. The policy of the University of South Florida Library and the Florida Historical Library is to make materials available to researchers and scholars.

Dr. Johns reported that current membership is 1,632. Dr. Mahon, membership chairman, suggested contacting delinquent members by telephone. The Executive Secretary will mail a list of delinquents to directors who will then follow up by telephone or a personal letter. Dr. Mahon, Mr. Dobkin, and Mr. Jones were appointed to a committee to draw up a new membership form. Mrs. Grafton recommended that promotional material explaining the Society's activities be prepared for distribution.

Mrs. Newton described her activities associated with preservation in Key West. A particular property is now threatened, and she asked for Society help in trying to save it. Mr. Jones moved that the Old Island Restoration group be informed of the Society's support of Key West preservation.

The President announced that the Executive Committee at its meeting in Tampa, October 1973, had appointed the following as the nominating committee: Herbert J. Doherty, Jr., Gainesville (chairman); Gilbert Lycan, DeLand; Robert Williams, Tallahassee; Marion Godown, Fort Myers; and Gertrude K. Stoughton, Tarpon Springs.

The board voted to hold the 1975 annual meeting in Gainesville, the 1976 convention in Miami.

Dr. Johns commended Judge James R. Knott for his efforts in getting the name Cape Canaveral restored to the area that had been designated Cape Kennedy. The board accepted the invitation of the Conference Group for Social and Administrative History to cooperate with the holding of a Conference on American Loyalists in St. Augustine, February 6-8, 1975. The Florida Historical Society will organize and sponsor one session.

Dr. Proctor again called for the organization of a Florida Historical Society Bicentennial Committee, pointing out the need for the Society's participation in the celebration. Dr. Johns stated that he would appoint such a committee immediately. Dr. Proctor reported on the progress of the Panton-Leslie-Forbes project which is being sponsored cooperatively by the University of West Florida, the University of Florida, and the Florida Historical Society. Professor William Coker of the University of West Florida is editor of the project. He has been working in Spain for the last several months collecting pertinent material, and he will be in England and France shortly.

Dr. Johns thanked Dr. Shofner for his work in setting up the conference to organize the Florida confederation of local historical groups which convened January 18 at Florida Technological University, and for his efforts in hosting the board meeting.

Eugene Lyon reported on the three-year project to find and study sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century Florida material in Spanish archives. Mr. Lyon also reported on the important Tequesta Indian site uncovered recently on the banks of the Miami River. This site is now being threatened by impending construction, and he asked the Society to help in saving the property for archeological study. Dr. Johns requested Mrs. Grafton, Dr. Lyon, and Dr. Peters to send him the necessary data so that a letter could be sent to appropriate parties.

Dr. Shofner reported that work is still in progress on the index for the *Florida Historical Quarterly*.

Dr. Johns thanked those attending and the meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alva L. Jones
Recording Secretary

BANK BALANCES, DECEMBER 31, 1973

Tampa Federal Savings & Loan Association (Father Jerome Fund)	\$ 3,468.04
Guaranty Federal Savings & Loan Association (Yonge Publication Fund)	15,145.31
Guaranty Federal Savings & Loan Association (Thompson Memorial Fund)	2,961.29
First Federal Savings & Loan Association (Main Savings)	14,103.22
University State Bank (Savings Account) (C. Tebeau Youth Award)	1,270.96
University State Bank (Checking Account)	8,943.98
	\$45,892.80

OBITUARY

John Donald Ware

Captain John D. Ware, an authority on the Spanish and English colonial periods in Florida and a longtime member of the Florida Historical Society, died of cancer in Houston, Texas, January 21, 1974. Funeral services were held in Tampa, January 25. Captain Ware was born November 21, 1913, at St. Andrews, Florida, and was educated in the Bay County public schools. He was a seafarer and a shipmaster with Waterman Steamship Corporation when he was appointed a Tampa Bay pilot in 1952. He held a United States Coast Guard license as master of steam and motor vessels, and had piloted ships along the Florida and Gulf coasts, the Mississippi River, and bays and harbors on the east coast of North America from Miami north to Canada. He was secretary of the Florida State Pilots Association and a member of the Tampa Bay Pilots Association.

Captain Ware was an acknowledged expert on the colonial history of Florida. His research and writings on eighteenth-century Florida were widely recognized. Several of his articles and book reviews were published in the *Florida Historical Quarterly* and in *El Escribano*, the St. Augustine Historical Society's journal. He had written an introduction and compiled the index to the *Notes on the Life and Works of Bernard Romans* by P. Lee Phillips, which will be published as one of the volumes in the Bicentennial Floridiana Facsimile Series by the University of Florida Press for the Florida Bicentennial Commission. Captain Ware had done exhaustive research on Romans and Phillips in libraries in the United States and Spain. At the time of his death, he was working on a definitive biography of George Gauld, the eighteenth-century English surveyor and cartographer. This is also scheduled to be published as one of the Florida Bicentennial volumes.

Captain Ware had served on the board of directors of the Florida Historical Society and was chairman of the state membership committee. He was a member of the executive board of the Hillsborough County Historical Commission, and he was active in the Safety Harbor Area Historical Society. This organization designated October 28, 1973, "John D. Ware Day," and presented Captain Ware with its Historian of the Year award. Captain Ware was interested in anthropology and archeology, and was a member of the Florida Anthropological Society. His many friends throughout Florida will feel his death as a deep personal loss.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

1974

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| May 3-4 | FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY- 72nd ANNUAL MEETING | Tallahassee |
| Sept. 12-15 | Oral History Association | Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming |
| Sept. 25-28 | American Association for State and Local History | Austin, Texas |
| Oct. 1-4 | Society of American Archivists | Toronto, Ontario |
| Oct. 2-6 | National Trust for Historic Preservation | Portland, Oregon |
| Nov. 6-9 | Southern Historical Association | Dallas, Texas |
| Dec. 28-30 | American Historical Association | Chicago, Illinois |

1975

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| May | FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY- 73rd ANNUAL MEETING | Gainesville |
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