

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



2019-2020 Chairman's Report

Prof. Compton Reeves

ADVENTURE. This is the year of our General Members Meeting, and the Covid-19 pandemic has turned the 2020 GMM event into an adventure. As you recall, it was our plan to meet in Philadelphia, and Susan Troxell had moved forward with great energy and organizational skill to prepare for the event. Then we were struck by a pandemic. Now the American Branch is having a virtual GMM, which is an adventure we are all taking together. Susan Troxell, our Membership Chair Cheryl Greer, and our Editor Joan Szechman have been doing technological alchemy to make sure that our virtual GMM is a worthy event.

ALARM. A recent communication from Chairman Dr Phil Stone has raised an alarm for some members of the American Branch. As we know, the Richard III Society has moved under the law of the United Kingdom to be incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG). All of us as members of the American Branch come under the rules of that incorporation process. Each of us was sent a form with a pre-paid return envelope to register with the CLG. Some members of the American Branch have not yet returned the form and thus will not be considered to be members of the Richard III Society CLG, and therefore will no longer receive any communications from the Society, including the *Ricardian Bulletin*, and the *Ricardian*. If you have not registered as a member of the CLG, please do so with dispatch.

APPRECIATION. It has been a pleasure to work with members of the Board of the American Branch during the past year, and I want to thank those who have served their time admirably and will be moving back to regular membership. Cheryl Greer, our Membership Chair, is stepping down, as is our Secretary, Emily Newton. Our Treasurer, Deborah Kaback, is bravely continuing on with the management of our finances. Our Non-fiction Librarian, Susan Troxell, is not only remaining in that position, but is also taking on the duties of Vice Chair. I also want to thank the members who have come forward as volunteers to become officers for the next two years. I am confident that the American Branch will have excellent leadership as we move forward. I also want to encourage all of our members to consider offering their talents in the future for leadership positions in the American Branch.

2019-2020 Membership Chair's Report

Cheryl Greer

While 2020 has been an eventful one for the world at large, it has been uneventful for the American Branch membership department. Membership numbers have declined somewhat, though not precipitously, perhaps due to pandemic belt-tightening. Most unfortunately, we have not been able to take advantage of our member discounts at Ricardian sites in the UK.

On a personal note, this will be my final Annual Report as I've reached the end of my four-year term and will be stepping down as Membership Chair after the GMM on October 17th. It has been my pleasure to serve King Richard (and you!) in this small capacity. I leave you in the capable hands of your new Membership Chair, Ms. Buffy Martin-Tarbox, and I hope that you will extend the same kindness to her as you have to me. On a practical level, this also means that you will be sending your membership renewal checks to a NEW address, so please take note of the change on your renewal reminder emails and upcoming 'Ricardian registers.' Or save yourself the trouble and renew by credit card online!

I look forward to seeing the work of the new Board; join me in wishing them good luck!

2017 Annual Treasurer's Report

Deborah Kaback

| | <u>2019</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Income | | |
| Dues | \$28,544.00 | \$24,363.00 |
| Gift General Fund | \$- | \$3,840.00 |
| Investment Income Unrealized Gain/Loss | \$8,641.00 | \$(3,488.00) |
| Dividends | \$4,370.00 | \$3,412.00 |
| Blue Pay Transactions | \$(65.00) | \$253.00 |
| Amazon Smile | \$64.00 | \$88.00 |
| Interest | \$- | \$35.00 |
| Sales Depart | \$- | \$20.00 |
| Gifts McGee Fund | \$- | \$- |
| Gift Schalleck Fund* | \$- | \$- |
| Gifts Weinsoft Fund | \$- | \$- |
| GMM Destination | \$- | \$- |
| GMM Registration Fees | \$- | \$- |
| Additional Registers | \$- | \$- |
| Total Income | <u>\$41,554.00</u> | <u>\$28,523.00</u> |
| Expenses | | |
| UK Society Dues | \$14,704.00 | \$10,274.00 |
| Ricardian Register PPS UK Pub | \$4,987.00 | \$7,226.00 |
| Publication Shipping Bookmaster Sungraphics | \$1,360.00 | \$3,262.00 |
| Fiction Library Expense | \$147.00 | \$680.00 |
| Non-Fiction Library Expenses | \$- | \$368.00 |
| Bank Wire | \$191.00 | \$648.00 |
| Neon Monthly Fee | \$196.00 | \$637.00 |
| Acc Federal NY State Tax Filing Fees | \$1,150.00 | \$550.00 |
| Blue Pay Monthly Fees | \$1,148.00 | \$329.00 |
| Conference Calls & Travel | \$1,762.00 | \$327.00 |
| Sales Office Expense | \$394.00 | \$200.00 |
| Blue Pay Volume Fees | \$- | \$167.00 |
| PayPal Transaction | \$65.00 | \$80.00 |
| Blue Pay Compliance Fees | \$- | \$80.00 |
| Reimbursement | \$7.00 | \$48.00 |
| GMM Costs | \$- | \$- |
| Publicity | \$- | \$- |
| Website | \$- | \$- |
| Bank Fee Adjustments | \$- | \$- |
| Total Expenses | <u>\$26,111.00</u> | <u>\$24,876.00</u> |
| Net income | <u>\$15,443.00</u> | <u>\$3,647.00</u> |
| Beginning Balance | | |
| Vanguard Total Bond Market Fund Indexs | \$149,309.00 | \$149,350.00 |
| Bank of America Business Fundamentals Checking | \$53,731.00 | \$53,570.00 |
| Paypal | \$4,319.00 | \$1,091.00 |
| | <u>\$207,359.00</u> | <u>\$204,011.00</u> |
| Ending Balance | | |
| Vanguard Total Bond Market Fund Indexs | \$162,319.00 | \$149,309.00 |
| Bank of America Business Fundamentals Checking | \$55,001.00 | \$53,731.00 |
| Paypal | \$5,480.00 | \$4,319.00 |
| | <u>\$222,800.00</u> | <u>\$207,359.00</u> |

2019 to September 2020 Non-Fiction Library Report

Susan Troxell

The non-fiction library has now grown to over 600 titles, however we have been experiencing a lack of member requests for books. Because of this, my recommendation as Research Librarian is to take a more cautious approach in acquiring additional materials in the future, as the size of the library needs to be kept to a reasonable level for space reasons. Donations are still accepted, but please do notify me first to make sure we do not duplicate an existing title. I am unsure how to respond to the lack of requests to borrow books, but can only encourage members to avail themselves of this free resource. We often have the newest of the Richard III and Wars of the Roses books, so you can stay abreast of the latest research and scholarly opinions without leaving the comfort of your home or making a dent in your budget.

I would like to thank members Nell Corkin and Myrna Smith, and author Helen Maurer, for their donations over the past year, included herein:

Additions to the Research Library:

Peter Spring, “Sir John Tiptoft: Edward IV’s enforcer and humanist scholar” (2018)

John S Lee, “The Medieval Clothier” (2018)

Livia Visser-Fuchs, “History as Pastime (Jean Wavrin)” (2018)

Helen Mauer, “The Letters of Margaret of Anjou” (2019)

Stephen David, “Last Champion of York – Francis Lovell” (2019)

Joseph & Frances Gies, “Life in a Medieval City” (1969, 1981 reprint)

Ann Sutton & L. Visser-Fuchs, “The Royal Funerals of the House of York at Windsor” (2005)

Nigel Saul, “The Three Richards – Richard I, Richard II, and Richard III” (2005)

Aries & Duby (ed.), “A History of Private Life, Volume III: Medieval World” (1988)

Michael Hicks, “Richard III: Self-Made King” (2019)

Robert Davis & Beth Lindsmith, “Lives of the Renaissance: People who shaped the Modern Age” (2019)

Marilyn Roberts, “Lady Anne Mowbray: Child wife of a Prince in the Tower” (2013)

Joyce Marlow, “Kings and Queens of Britain” (1979)

2020 Fiction Library Report

Jessie Prichard Hunter

Our Fiction Library currently has more than 500 novels, most involving Richard and his contemporaries, but many spanning the entirety of the Middle Ages and the Tudor era.

The books acquired by the Fiction Library in 2019-2020 are as follows:

Soldier, by Maryann Benbow

Heretic, by Bernard Cornwell

Tudor Dawn, by David Field

The Taming of the Queen, by Philippa Gregory

The Queen of Last Hopes, by Susan Higginbotham

A Shrine of Murders, by C.L. Grace

A Maze of Murders, by C.L. Grace

The Book of Shadows, by C.L. Grace

A Feast of Poisons, by C.L. Grace

Right Trusty and Well Beloved . . ., edited by Alex Marchant

The Woodville Connection, by K.E. Martin

The Marriage of Meggotta, by Edith Pargeter

Falls the Shadow, by Sharon Kay Penman

Cruel as the Grave, by Sharon Kay Penman

Dragon’s Lair, by Sharon Kay Penman

Prince of Darkness, by Sharon Kay Penman

White Rose Blossoms, by Phil Syphe

Secretary's Annual Report:

Emily Newton

In 2019, I designed a new logo for the American branch of the society, as well as a logo for the 2020 GMM that was to take place in Philadelphia. In the wake of the Coronavirus Pandemic, with heavy hearts we made the call to cancel the in-person GMM and decided to host our first ever virtual GMM. That decision came with plentiful discussion and exploration into new technologies and experiences for the board and the GMM planning team. I have updated our GMM logo to represent our new virtual platform, and have performed my duties as secretary at all necessary meetings and planning events throughout 2019 and 2020.

2019 Editor's Report

Joan Szechtman

In 2019 we continued the two publications: Ricardian Register in March and September with both print and digital editions; and Ricardian Chronicle in June and December as a digital edition. The Register is oriented towards academic articles about Richard III, fifteenth-century English culture, and events around and about the Wars of the Roses.

The March 2019 edition featured an article by Susan Troxell, "The Trial That Should Have Happened in 1483." The September 2019 edition featured two articles: "False Paternity and the Wars of the Roses" by Peter Stride MB BS, FRCP, D. Med, and an archival reprint "WHODUNIT: The Suspects in the Case" by Helen Maurer. 2020 addendum for March and September Registers

The March 2020 edition featured an article by Michèle Schindler, "Anne Lovell's Rebellions" and "Errata for Whodunit: The suspects in the Case" by Helen Maurer. The September 2020 edition contained no articles.

The Chronicle is a newsletter that focuses on members' activities, such as meetings, interviews with members, and Ricardian travel logs and is an online publication on our website at r3.org/newsletter. They are published in June and December.

Chapter Reports

2019 Tidewater (VA) Chapter Annual Report

Bob Pfile

Since our last report, the Tidewater Chapter had a presentation on armor and jousting as well as a field trip to Medieval Times. The presentation on armor and jousting was presented by the head of the Washington DC Mounted Police unit and was extremely interesting. The trip to Medieval Times was fun and allowed us to get together in an informal setting.

Our paid up membership stands at twelve.

2019 Florida Chapter

Dr. William F. Gouveia

The Florida Chapter is based in Orlando. We meet quarterly at the English Pub Restaurant on International Drive. Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for one weekend in March, 2020 to celebrate Richard's return to Yorkshire from the continent. All are cordially invited to attend the meal. We are still undecided regarding the next meeting location, it will either be at the Pub Restaurant or Universal's Leaky Cauldron Restaurant, which serves British fare in a Harry Potter atmosphere. Contact us early in March for the exact location, time and date.

We held three meetings last year averaging 3-5 members. Three other R3 Florida members emailed us of their intention to attend but all were no shows for various reasons. In the first meeting we discussed Chris Skidmore's book "Richard III-England's most controversial king". In our second meeting we discussed the book "The War of the Roses-the conflict that inspired Game of Thrones". In our last meeting we reviewed the book "The Plantagenets-the warrior kings and queens who made England", by Dan Jones. In our next meeting we will be discussing the book "Digging for Richard III-the search for the lost king" by Mike Pitts. Some members have tentative plans to visit Yorkshire next year which would allow visits to R3 sites like his tomb at Leicester Cathedral, Bosworth Field and York Minster. Concerns about Brexit are delaying travel plans.