

ALUMNI eNEWSLETTER

No. 32

January 2022

The Alumni Association starts off in 2022 with some new faces on the Board of Directors. First, a big thank you to **Amon White** for his service as a director on the board. His term ended on 12/31/2021. The new board was elected at the Alumni Annual Meeting in May 2021. The new board's term runs from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. Many thanks to the following individuals for volunteering to serve on the board for the next three years:

David Lamdin (President) Robert Chapman (Vice President) Sara Durkacs (Membership Secretary) Jeanne Solensky (Corresponding Sec) James Russiello (Treasurer) Richard Brandi (Director) Travis Brock Kennedy (Director) John Martine (Director) Elizabeth Ann Milnarik (Director) William Cullum (Director)



The Alumni Association's annual membership renewal season is underway. Many thanks to all those who have already renewed! Your faithful, consistent, and significant support is sincerely appreciated. Your membership and donations will enable the Alumni Association to continue its support of VSA Summer Schools students with scholarship money. With the schools starting up again in 2022, the Alumni Association hopes to provide significant scholarship support to students in 2022.

It's easy to renew online via our Pay Pal portal. Further information concerning membership renewals is available at: **vsaalumni.org**. Just click on the "donate" button and follow the instructions to pay with your credit card or PayPal account. If you encounter any problems, please try a different browser.

Cognizant of the difficulties encountered in our country stemming from the pandemic, the Alumni Board has authorized **a special one-time reduced membership rate of \$25** for 2022 to encourage all to renew their memberships. Please take advantage of this special rate or renew at the current rate beginning at \$55 for an individual.

The source of the Alumni Association funds includes the annual membership fee (which is a separate membership fee from the VSA), and largely from generous alumni who donate at the Supporter and above membership level, to the special scholarship funds, and to honorary and memorial donations.

Alumni Association membership benefits include: opportunities to participate in the Alumni Association's national and international Study Tour Programs that include exclusive access to historic sites, private homes, and private collections; invitations to special events nationwide; an invitation to attend the Alumni Association's Annual Meeting & Dinner often held in a private home in connection with a VSA Study Tour; and publications keeping members informed of activities - only current Alumni Members may submit essays for possible publication and join the Alumni Association Study Tour.

As you consider your yearend giving options and as a further incentive to donate to the

As a chapter of the VSA, the Alumni Association is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Contributions are deductible as provided by law. You can find more information about the Alumni Association by visiting our web site at **vsaalumni.org** separate from the VSA web site (**victoriansociety.org**)

Members are strongly encouraged to submit articles for publication in this **eNewsletter**. Articles sharing your adventures and travels in Victoriana since your summer school experiences, other articles of interest to our members, and career advancements would be most welcomed. Please send to David Lamdin at <u>dalamdin@gmail.com</u>

Your faithful support of the Alumni Association and its primary mission to raise funds for student scholarships is greatly appreciated. For the summer schools in 2017, 2018, and 2019, the Alumni Association was able to provide about \$72,500 in scholarships to some 31 Summer Schools students who otherwise might not have been able to attend. In 2020, the Alumni Board also authorized a donation of \$16,000 to help the Summer Schools cover some of their fixed costs while the schools were shut down because of the pandemic.

The Heritage Society of the Alumni Association was established to allow the Alumni Association to recognize those who have made thoughtful provisions in their planned giving documents, wills, trust, and bequests. These provisions will help to ensure that the Alumni Association will continue to have the resources necessary to fulfill its missions in support of the VSA. As you think about your legacy, please remember the summer school experience, the life-long benefits you received from the VSA Summer Schools and remember to support the Alumni Association in its efforts to provide scholarships to future summer school students.

Including the Alumni Association in your estate plans through a simple bequest in your will, or as a beneficiary of a life insurance product or retirement plan is an effortless way to support the Schools. If you are considering a bequest to the Alumni Association, please consult with your attorney about including the following sample language in your will:

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Alumni Association of the Victorian Society Summer Schools Chapter of the Victorian Society in America, EIN 23-1710978, 24 Wilkins Ave FI 1, Haddonfield, NJ 08033, all (or state percentage) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, to be used for its general support (or for the support of a specific fund or program).

If you do make a legacy provision for the Alumni Association, please let us know the details so that you can be included in our listing of **Heritage Society** members. If you are interested in and require further details about including the Alumni Association in your will or trust, please contact President David Lamdin at (703) 243-2350 or at dalamdin@gmail.com.



With the new year, come new lectures in the FREE VSA online series. The next is this **Saturday, January 8th, at 2pm ET**. Architectural historian John Tschirch will be joining us to speak on "Polished Perfection: Servant Life and Spaces in Gilded Age Newport, Rhode Island."

If you have not already registered for the lecture, you can do so here: <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sJEndqrqSjqM21Cb5pNckQ</u>

This and other lectures are available for two weeks following each live presentation - links are available on the Lectures web page https://victoriansociety.org/lectures-2/

Don't forget, online applications are now available for the 2022 Summer Schools in Newport, Chicago, and London!

Application forms and full instructions are available online at victoriansociety.org. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Mallek, Summer Schools Administrator at (508) 205-9873 or Admin@VSASummerSchools.org. All applications require a \$50 application fee and one letter of recommendation. Completed applications are due by March 1, 2022.

BUTTRICK CHALLENGE DONORS

Contributions processed April 1, 2019 through February 2, 2021. Every effort is made to accurately report all donations. However, there was a flurry of donations at the last minute to meet the 12/31/2020 deadline so this listing may not be complete. Errors and omissions may occur. If you see an error, please bring it to our attention so that a correction can be made in future listings.

\$20,000 and above

Mary Anne Hunting Anonymous in Memory of Bill Dane

<u>\$10,000 to \$19,999</u>

John Freed Administrative Trust; Don Merrill, Trustee (2)

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Nancy and Fred Golden (2) Robert Chapman and Florence Sinofsky (2) Gretchen Redden (2)

> **\$2,500 to \$4,999** Pauline C. Metcalf's Felicia Fund

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Liz Leckie (2) Charles Robertson III Robert Rettig Joan K. Wells Sibyl Groff in memory of Richard Reutlinger and Bill Dane John Martine, AIA Kristine Steensma David Lamdin (2) William D Grasse and Emily Haldeman John McHugh and Janet Self via The Henry Lyman Greer Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation (2) Michael Hendron Sheila Donahue Hank Dunlop (3)

<u>\$500 to \$999</u>

Richard Tuck and Neale Grasham Hank Dunlop (3) Sara Durkacs Members of the Washington DC Chapter of the VSA (2) Jennifer Trotoux Christopher Forbes Roger Scharmer (2) Donald and Elizabeth Roberts

<u>\$100 to \$499</u>

Alan Ruscoe **Richard Merrill** Candace Volz (2) Peter Trippi Nancy Evans Hays IMO Gavin Stamp Nancy Kilpatrick in Memory of C Dudley Brown Suzanne and Larry Cavazos Sergei Troubetzkoy (2) William Ayers Jane Severance Jan-Paul Malocsay (2) Darrell Lemke and Maryellen Trautman Kerrill Rubman (2) William and Patricia Eldredge Phyllis Quinn Cynthia Casey (3) Laura Macaluso Warren Ashworth Susan Wagg Phyllis Quinn Mary Findlay (2) Janet Geiser John Simonelli (2) lan and Margaret Berke Wilson Stiles (2) Jeanne Solensky (2) Lamar Lentz (2) **Christopher Pollock** Matthew and Jolene Dessert Donna Ann Harris Whitney W White William Hines Morgan and Megan Pierce Sarina Forbes Edward Bosley Susan Robertson Yorkman Lowe Hilda Regier James Russiello

<u>Up to \$99</u>

Jennifer Mary Wood Laura Parrish Marilyn C. Scott Alessandra Merrill Margaret Starr (2) Duane Myers (2) Suzi Barbee Dale Wheary Anne-Taylor Cahill John Faust Judith Martorelli in memory of Dudley Brown Theodore Sawruk Andre Hoek Catherine Olasky Max Sinsteden Alexis Mucha Jaclyn Spainhour Mitzi Mogul Keith Letsche in memory of Richard Reutlinger



The Heritage Society of the Alumni Association

John C. Freed, a longtime VSA and Alumni Association supporter made provisions for a \$10,000 bequest to the Alumni Association in memory of his partner, **Paul Duchscherer**. **Paul Duchscherer** very thoughtfully made provisions in his trust for a \$10,000 bequest to the Alumni Association as well as designating the Alumni Association as the beneficiary of all future royalties from his many books and other publications. The **Bob and Carole Chapman Fund** very generously awarded a grant of \$10,000 to the Alumni Association Chapter in memory of **Carole Chapman. Darrell Lemke & Maryellen Trautman** made provisions for a bequest to the Alumni Association

The Officers and board members of the Alumni Association are extremely grateful to all alumni who help support our mission. We offer our special thanks to those listed below who made additional contributions—above and beyond their membership dues—to the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

Paul Duchscherer Memorial Scholarship Endorsed by Sibyl McCormac Groff and John Martine

Patricia Eldredge Mary Findlay Sibyl McCormac Groff Adam Klafter David Lamdin Elizabeth Leckie Don Merrill John Martine Phyllis Quinn Roger Scharmer Joseph Svehlak Richard Tuck and Neale Grasham

Gwen Koch Newport Memorial Scholarship

Charles and Sheila Donahue Sibyl McCormac Groff David Lamdin Duane Myers Danae Peckler and Michael Spencer Charles Robertson III Marilyn C. Scott

Prof. Richard Guy Wilson Newport Scholarship

Suzi Barbee Edward Bosley Mary Costabile Mary Findlay Sarina Forbes Willie Granston Sibyl McCormac Groff David Lamdin Gretchen Redden Katherine Seale Dale Wheary Richard Guy Wilson

Chicago Scholarship

David Lamdin

General Scholarship

Christopher Adams and Christy Szczesny-Adams Suzi Barbee Lvdia Brandt Cynthia Casey Robert Chapman and Florence Sinofsky Mary Findlay Merrily Gumpel Kathryn Hannan David Lamdin Lamar Lentz Stephen Byrd and Jill Lord John McHugh and Janet Self Susan Robertson **Barnett Shepherd** Jeanne Solensky Kristine Steensma Joseph Svehlak Allan and Angela Vagner Martha Vicinus Linda Weld Samantha Wiley

London Scholarship

Laura Camerlengo Caroline Giddis David Lamdin Richard Guy Wilson

Special thanks also to those members at the Supporter (\$125) level and above.

Benefactor (\$600)

James Buttrick Robert Chapman and Florence Sinofsky Merrily Gumpel David Lamdin Katherine Seale

Sponsors (\$250-\$350)

Louis Aubert David Blackburn Jennifer Carlquist Nancy and Fred Golden Hank Dunlop Sibyl McCormac Groff Darrell Lemke and Maryellen Trautman Stephen Byrd and Jill Lord Janie Petkus Gretchen Redden Katherine Seale Linda Weld

Supporter (\$125)

Louis Aubert Suzi Barbee Jennifer Baughn Ian and Margaret Berke Gray Brechin Nancy Connors Steven Erisoty Mary Findlay Vivian B. Fisher Stephen Haigh and Shelley Meagher Nancy Hays Sally Kinsey Darrell Lemke and Maryellen Trautman Lamar Lentz Stephen Byrd and Jill Lord Laura Macaluso Jan-Paul Malocsay James McPartlin and Elise Kelly Don Merrill Nancy Naeve Catherine Olasky Samuel Olshin Gerald and Helena Peters Roger Reid **Robert Rettig** Donald and Elizabeth Roberts Jr. Charles Robertson III Roger Scharmer Max Sinsteden **Richard Tuck and Neale Grasham** Allan and Angela Vagner Daniel Visnich Linda Weld Kristina Wilson

List as of June 15, 2021. The list will be updated following the conclusion of our membership renewal season. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of our contributor lists, but errors may occur. If you see an error, please report it to David Lamdin at <u>dalamdin@gmail.com</u> or Membership Secretary Sara Durkacs at membership@vsaalumni.org