

From Our President



Two hundred and fifty years!

Your Society was founded in Philadelphia 250 years ago to help Englishmen in need. Our first president was the rector at Christ Church. Benjamin Franklin and Bishop

William White were early members. Philadelphia was the second largest city in the English-speaking world. The city was bustling with English immigrants, and the Society, its chaplains, physicians, and lawyers were there to offer support.

Two hundred and fifty years later we are still committed to helping Englishmen and women in distress, but our outreach efforts have expanded. Decades ago we began awarding scholarships to local college students wishing to study in England. The pandemic prevented student travel and allowed us to redirect those funds to other worthy causes. We renewed our two and a half centuries-old relationship with Christ Church. We established a new partnership with the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the Philadelphia Outward Bound School. We strengthened our support of our longtime partner St. James School, an Episcopal day school serving disadvantaged youth. And in cooperation with the Fairmount Park Conservancy, we have recently “adopted” our St. George and the Dragon statue, which sits on the west bank of the Schuylkill in Fairmount Park.

Please make plans to join us on Saturday, April 22, 2023, as we celebrate our founding and two and a half centuries of charitable good works with a 250th Anniversary Gala. An Evensong service at Christ Church followed by a cocktail reception and dinner at the nearby Quaker Meeting House. As a social organization with centuries of party-planning experience, this is an event not to be missed. I hope to see you there!

Best regards,

Bill Thompson

President



Annual St. George's Day Dinner

On April 23, 2022, the annual dinner was held at The Philadelphia Club. It was a special evening because The Cuthbert Pratt Memorial Award, last presented in 2009, was presented to Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE, Roger Brown, and Susan Gerrity.



Past President George Tyndall reads the names of the recipients



President Bill Thompson, 1st VP Rich Booker, 2nd VP Frank O'Donnell, and 3rd VP Will Forbes



Receiving the Cuthbert Pratt Awards are Roger Brown, Susan Gerrity, and Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE.

“To assure the perpetual memory of our beloved Vice-President, the Officers and members of The Society of the Sons of St. George hereby recognize that member of our Society who, through community service or through the furthering of Anglo-American relations, best exemplifies the dedication to duty and devotion to this Society of the Very Reverend Cuthbert Pratt.” The recipients are chosen by the majority of the past recipients. George Tyndall, being the only living past recipient presented the awards to the honorees.

Remembering Dr. Audrey Evans

1925-2022

Audrey Evans was a pediatric oncologist who co-founded the first Ronald McDonald House for families with children in the hospital. She died at her home in Philadelphia at the age of 97 on September 29, 2022.

She was a pioneer in children's cancer treatment. Born in Edinburgh, Evans knew from an early age that she wanted to be a doctor. The only woman in her medical school when she began her higher education, she studied in both England and the US and made her career at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. There, she specialized in neuroblastoma, working to make the disease easier to diagnose and much more survivable than it had been. Evans established a system of stages, now common in talking about cancer, to describe the progression of neuroblastoma tumors. She also provided the first proof that chemotherapy could fight solid tumors.

In addition to her scientific work on childhood cancers, Evans also worked to bring comfort to children fighting cancer and their families. She allowed children to bring a small pet with them to their treatments, and she kept a large cage of finches at the hospital to amuse her patients. In 1971, frustrated by the lack of accommodations for parents of children hospitalized far from home, she began imagining

a facility where those parents could stay for long periods while their children were being treated. Evans worked with members of the Philadelphia Eagles, and McDonald's, to create the first Ronald McDonald House. Today, there are hundreds of these facilities around the world. A movie about Evans' life, "Audrey's Children," is currently in production.

After Dr. Evans' retirement in 2009, she kept busy riding horses, tending sheep and scuba diving. But she said "missed the kids" and felt depressed, until she found a new project.

Involving herself in her Episcopal church's summer program at a shuttered house of worship in north Philadelphia, she

helped raise money to reopen the church as a middle school. She and her rector co-founded a private school, St. James, in 2011. She was a regular presence on campus, where she could be seen walking arm-in-arm with students.

"I'm taking care of children here, and I was taking care of children with cancer," she said in a St. James School video. "These kids need help, too."

For her 90th birthday party, Dr. Evans created a gift registry. On the list: money for the school's library books, for heat, for science materials—and \$250 for turkey meatloaf, her favorite meal, for the children. Writing credit: Linnea Crowther



As a co-founder of St. James School, Audrey could be found on campus often, getting to know the students on a personal level



Jennifer Raymond, Outward Bound Scholarship and Recruitment Manager, Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE, British Consul Representative, Patricia Mikols, and Past President George Tyndall

The Queen's Remembrance Service

On September 18, 2022 at 3pm, the rector, clergy and people of St. Clement's Church in the city of Philadelphia invited St. George members to a remembrance service honoring the life of Queen Elizabeth II for His Majesty Charles III and the members of the Royal Family. Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE, along with Hannah Young, British Deputy Consul General, NY attended and participated in the ceremony. First City Troop led in the guests.



In Memoriam

- Honorable Richard Abell
- Douglas Brown
- William Carr
- Col. Joseph Laseau
- Mary Marvin, wife of past president James Marvin
- Cary Rush

In Tribute to The Queen



Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee

We are fortunate to have a wonderful resource for outstanding calligraphy work and her name is Karen Shain Schloss. This past June, Karen was commissioned to do a hand made card to honor The Queen on her Platinum Jubilee. As shown in the photo, it was complete with our 250th Society logo and beautiful calligraphy complete with hand made envelope to match. It was a perfect tribute to Her Majesty on such a monumental occasion.



Elizabeth II: A Lasting Legacy

Once again we called on Karen Schloss to compose an appropriate tribute to express The Society's sympathies on the passing of Her Majesty. The card was a simple calligraphy message expressing our sadness to the Royal Family and also wishing His Royal Highness, King Charles III a long and happy reign.



Community Support

The Society has been supporting the Philadelphia Outward Bound School for a few years. Pictured below is President Bill Thompson presenting a \$5,000 check to Jennifer Raymond, Scholarship and Recruitment Manager for Philadelphia Outward Bound. Also pictured is President Thompson with Outward Bound Scholarship student, Manny Levine, who is seen here in his gear after repelling from Two Commerce Square in Center City, after completing a training program at Outward Bound.



Lunch with The Duke of Gloucester

On Monday, October 24, President Bill Thompson and former President George Tyndall hosted a private lunch in New York with HRH The Duke of Gloucester, his Principal Secretary Alastair Todd, and Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE, to discuss a potential visit from the Duke to Philadelphia in 2023. Also attending were Debbie Webster representing The Order of St. John, Clare Risman, Executive Director of The New York Society of St. George and Hannah Young, Deputy Consul General.





Christmas Celebration

The St. George Christmas Celebration was on Sunday, December 11th. It began with a Service of Lessons and Carols at St. Thomas' Church Whitemarsh with a reception and dinner that followed at Philadelphia Cricket Club, Militia Hill. Following Dinner the guests sang Christmas Carols that were lead by Greg and Renee Cantwell and accompanied by pianist, Kate Casano. Pictured are President Bill Thompson, 1st VP, Rich Booker, and Past President George Tyndall. The proceeds from this event were given to St. James School, a tuition-free private Episcopal middle school that provides students with year-round academic, physical, spiritual, and creative nourishment while working to uplift the surrounding community.

Ales & Petals/Cars & Motorcycles of England Car Show

Hope Lodge, an 18th century Georgian manor house and grounds in Ft. Washington, PA, was once again the site of the British Car Show, featuring over 250 English cars and motorcycles.

Our member Graham Gill was an exhibitor of his impressive collection of cars as shown here with his MG.

This year it was held on Saturday, June 4th as a fundraiser for Hope Lodge. Along with the spectacular array of cars were craft beers, food trucks, music, and tours of the mansion all on a beautiful summer day.



Royal Investiture

On November 5, 2022, Royal Investiture in the residence of Dame Karen Pierce, British Ambassador and in the presence of HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex and Forfar

The British Consulate-General in New York is pleased to announce that Oliver St. Clair Franklin has been granted an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE). The honor was awarded on September 23rd in recognition of Honorary Consul Franklin's services to UK/US relations.

Honorary Consul Franklin was appointed to his role as the representative of the UK government in Greater Philadelphia in 1998. Since then he has liaised with the Consul General in New York and the British Embassy in Washington, DC to support and promote UK efforts and activities in the Greater Philadelphia region. In this role he has hosted senior members of the British Royal Family, UK government ministers and members of Parliament. He also founded a program for Philadelphia public high school students to visit London, an initiative to provide opportunities for mid-career American minorities to work in UK investment banks, and most recently an Oxford University and Museum of the American Revolution sponsored Philadelphia UK Teacher's exchange seminar.

In 2001, Honorary Consul Franklin received the Honorary OBE and in 2019 'The Distinguished Friend of Oxford' Award, and was also elected an Honorary Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford where he studied. He is leading member of the business community of Philadelphia and a board member of the British American Business Council of Greater Philadelphia, partnering on initiatives that support US-UK commercial endeavors and promote a positive relationship with the UK.





Calendar of Events



- Feb. 23rd** The Annual Meeting, Corinthian Yacht Club
- May 6th** British Officers Club, Live Stream of The Coronation & Breakfast, The Episcopal Diocesan Center Auditorium, Norristown
- May 6th** The King's Coronation Garden Party The Highlands Mansion, Ft. Washington
- Jun. TBD** British Car Show, Hope Lodge, Ft. Washington
- Sep. 10th** Pub Night, Stoney's Pub, North Wilmington
- Nov. 11th** Remembrance Day Service, 10:30am Chapel of The Four Chaplains, Navy Yard Luncheon Reception, Corinthian Yacht Club
- Dec. TBD** Christmas Festival

Upward and Outward Bound

Every two years The Commonwealth Committee, comprised of roughly 31 various Commonwealth Societies and Organizations come together and sponsor a fundraiser for a deserving community organization. On October 16th a Gala was held at The Discovery Center in Fairmount Park to benefit The Duke of Edinburgh Awards & Outward Bound Philadelphia. It was a spirited evening of cocktails, dinner buffet, an array of auction items while enjoying the music of a steel band. The Center is situated with an expansive view overlooking the reservoir and surrounding trees that is absolutely captivating.

The Duke of Edinburgh Awards & Outward Bound are flexible and proven programs for youth development with the belief in the power of young people and serve to improve the lives of so many in our area.

It was gratifying to have The Society of St. George once again involved in this particular Commonwealth event. Some of the other fundraiser recipients, going back as far as 2005, included a tsunami relief fund, Carson Valley School, St. James School, The Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians, Hurricane Victims of Commonwealth Islands in the Caribbean, Covenant House (for homeless youths), and one of our earliest recipients A Water Treatment Facility in Kenya. These and future deserving organizations are the reason that we should all be proud of our involvement serving those in need and being part of this worthwhile cause.

Past Presidents Looking Back

On July 30, former Presidents Ronald Robinson and George Tyndall and his wife Ronna spent a most enjoyable afternoon on the patio of Manufacturers Country Club overlooking the beautiful golf course while enjoying a wonderful al fresco lunch and reminiscing about old times.

Ron served as president for the years 1998 and 1999. Some of the highlights of Ron's tenure consist of activities that may bring back memories of simpler times and old friendships.

Christmas at St. Dunstan's in Blue Bell and The Philadelphia Cricket Club, Brandywine Club Polo Match, 10th Anniversary Dinner of our Scholarship Assistance at Beaver College (now Arcadia University), Planning for our trip to England in 2000, Meetings at Valley Green Inn, a Sunset Cruise on a 75ft Topsail Schooner from Penn's Landing and St. George's Day Dinner



at The Independence Seaport Museum. These are a few of the highlights with Ron as President.

Some of those early members from that time period, that come to mind include our British Relations Liaison, Bob Sewell, Jim Merriman, Richard Smith, Col. Bill Cowper, Bart and Sally Linvill, Charlie and Betsy Stacks, Ginny and Thornton Smith, Mary and Peter Stevens, Nick and Kathy Ladd, Hugh Brown, Dr. Bob Gill, Jim and Mary Fish, The Rev. Gregory Dimick, The Rev. Bill Murray and Alan and Effie Stuart.

It was a pleasure to catch up with Ron and see that he is enjoying his retirement years at Brittany Pointe Estates. Ron and his wife Barbara were always faithful attendees at all our events. We wish him well.

THOMAS SULLY

1783 - 1872

Thomas Sully was born in 1783 in Horncastle, Lincolnshire, England, the youngest son of nine children born to the actors Matthew and Sarah Chester Sully. At the suggestion of his father's brother-in-law, a theater manager in Virginia and South Carolina, the Sullys emigrated to the United States in 1792. Sully attended school in New York until his mother's death in 1794, when he returned to live with his family in Richmond. From there they moved to Charleston, South Carolina, where the future artist performed on the stage with his parents and siblings.

Following the example of his older brother, the miniature painter Lawrence, Sully resolved to become an artist. He first received art lessons from his young schoolmate Charles Fraser. After an unsuccessful attempt to learn the business of insurance broking, Sully was apprenticed to his brother-in-law, a French emigrée miniaturist named Jean Belzons. After a violent quarrel with his teacher in 1799 Sully left Charleston and joined his brother Lawrence in Richmond. Inspired by the sight of portraits by Henry Benbridge, he continued to study art and opened up his first studio at Richmond in 1804. When Lawrence died in September 1804 Sully assumed responsibility for the family and eventually married his brother's widow Sarah. In 1806 Sully accepted a commission to paint at a theater in New York, where he met William Dunlap, John Wesley Jarvis, and John Trumbull. He invested one hundred dollars to have Trumbull paint a portrait of his wife so that he might learn something of the senior artist's technique. In 1807 he travelled to Boston and spent about three weeks studying with Gilbert Stuart, who encouraged his efforts to become a portraitist. Later that year Sully moved to Philadelphia, where he remained for the rest of his life.

His portrait practice flourished, and in May 1809 he entered into an agreement with a group of prominent citizens that enabled him to embark a year-long trip to study art in London. Sharing a room there with Charles Bird King, he studied under Benjamin West and Henry Fuseli, met the circle of British artists who were active at the Royal Academy of Art, and familiarized himself with collections of old master paintings. When Sully returned to Philadelphia in 1810 he quickly set about establishing his future reputation as one of America's foremost portraitists by painting a number

of full-length commissions, beginning in 1811 with George Frederick Cooke in the Role of Richard III. In 1812, one year after the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts acquired the painting, Sully was elected to an honorary membership in the organization, in which he played an active role until resigning from its board of directors in 1831. From 1819 to at least 1846 he and his partner, the restorer and frame maker James S. Earle, ran a successful commercial art gallery.

Sully's artistic activity was not confined to Philadelphia, and throughout his long career he made numerous protracted trips to Washington, Baltimore, Boston, New York, and West Point.

At the height of his fame in 1837, a Philadelphia association of British expatriates called the Society of the Sons of St. George sent him to England to paint a full-length portrait of the recently crowned Queen Victoria.



Sully's professional stature was such that he attracted many pupils, most notable among them Charles Robert Leslie, John Neagle, and Jacob Eichholtz; he also trained several of his children to become competent artists. In 1851 he prepared a short practical guide for portraitists entitled *Hints to Young Painters and the Process of Portrait Painting*, which was revised in 1871 and published two years later.

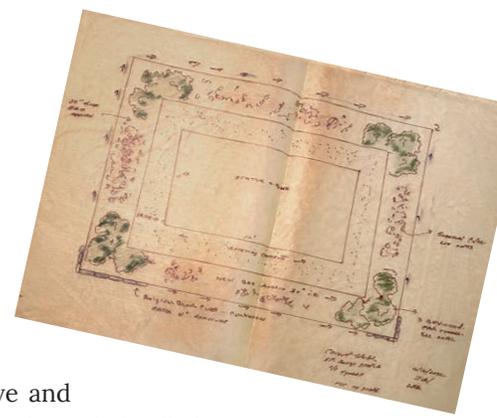
Sully was America's foremost exponent of the highly romanticized, painterly, and fluid style of portraiture practiced by the two contemporary British artists he had most admired during his year of study in England, Sir Henry Raeburn and Sir Thomas Lawrence. Although he painted many of the most prominent politicians, clergymen, and military heroes of his era, Sully's fame rests mainly on his exaggeratedly elegant and idealized portraits of fashionable society women, and, to a lesser extent, his sentimental group portraits of children and "fancy pictures." Often painted with a nearly flawless mastery of technique, these ultra-refined images are fundamentally decorative, and the deliberately self-conscious affectations of the sitters create a sense of artificiality that precludes the achievement of any penetrating psychological insight into their characters. This aesthetic, however, appealed greatly to the elite social stratum from which Sully drew his patrons, and earned him the status of being the most successful American portrait painter following the death of Gilbert Stuart in 1828, until his gradual decline in the 1850s. Sully died in Philadelphia in 1872.

Article from National Gallery of Art



Update on the St. George Statue in Fairmount Park

On September 22, 2022, after a few postponements, several members of the Society gathered at the statue in Fairmount Park, Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and Black Road, to do some gardening. It was a beautiful fall day. Refreshments were provided and a lot was accomplished. We hope to meet again in the spring. In the meantime, President Bill Thompson and George Tyndall have been working with the city and a landscaper to upgrade the area around the statue including the installation of Belgian block and plantings.



Tree Planting Ceremony

On Tuesday, June 14th, Hannah Young, Her Majesty's Deputy Consul General to New York, invited members of The Society of St. George, Philadelphia to join her in Washington Square for a tree planting ceremony in celebration of The Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This is in conjunction with The Queen's Green Canopy, a unique UK wide tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, by inviting people to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee."

Throughout her reign, the Queen has planted more than 1,500 trees all over the world and has spoken alongside Sir David Attenborough of the importance of trees in the Earth's future.



A Letter from the Royal Society of St. George

Dear Members of the St George's Society of Philadelphia,

As the new Chairman of the Society, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to pass on warm greetings from the Royal Society of St. George in England.

It's certainly interesting and challenging times for us all. Whilst it was very sad time last year with the passing of our Patron HM Queen Elizabeth II, we look forward to the coronation of King Charles III on May 6th 2023. This will be a very exciting time here as there aren't too many people around who remember the last one! Having said that, my wife and I attended a special tour of Westminster Abbey with one of our branches last year, given by the Purcell Group—which of formed of old choristers of the Abbey. Among those that sang for us that night were three gentlemen who had sung at the Queen's Coronation in 1953! Quite a moment.



One of our main goals over the coming months is for the King to take up the role of Patron of the Society again, but I suspect this will take a little time to sort out as he has a few things on his plate, at the moment.

I can't guarantee I'll be able to visit all our branches around the world, but we have created a new role of International Branch Representative on the Council. I'm pleased to say that Mr David Burns MBE has agreed to take on the role and will hopefully reach out to you soon with the aim of building stronger ties with our branches and affiliated groups around the world.

Whilst the recent pandemic caused everyone around the world a lot of problems, one of the benefits was the ability to keep connected with the use of tools like Zoom. I am keen to build on our last Chairman, Joanna Cadman's initiative, to hold regular Zoom meetings with any branches and members around the world to wish to join. So, for the first time we are able to engage with our members and colleagues around the world.

It would, of course, be great to meet up with any members of your Society who might be visiting England. I do wish all members of the St George's Society of Philadelphia and happy and prosperous 2023!

Best regards,

Nick Dutt Chairman

SOCIETY Merchandise



Historical Book

To receive your softbound copy of this 1923 reproduction covering the history of The Society of the Sons of St. George, please make a donation of \$25 or more (plus \$10 for shipping and handling).



TO ORDER:

Email judith@stgeorgephiladelphia.org
or call 267-514-1774

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Remembering Guy Fawkes Day

The Rev. G. Clayton Ames

*I can remember living in digs in Edinburgh. The family took me and their two small children, the five of us, and we went down to the back garden and waved sparklers (which was very safe for the wee uns). We did this for 15 minutes, then I went off to the HUGE parade coming up and down the Royal Mile to Calton Hill above Waverley Station. There was an open "field" with the fire brigade and all. The base of the bonfire was the size of a city block. **It was the largest bonfire I have ever seen!***



The parade routes came from different directions all over the city with all the torches—not flashlights—thrown and tossed onto the bonfire. It was HUGE!



Rev. Frank Allen



Rev. Andrew Kellner

New Society Chaplains

We are pleased to welcome The Reverends Frank Allen and Andrew Kellner who will be serving the Society as our new chaplains. Frank has served as rector of St. David's Episcopal Church in Wayne since 1997 and is chair of the St. James School Board of Directors. Andrew has served as teacher and chaplain at St. James since its founding in 2010, and is currently priest-in-charge at Church of Saint Asaph in Bala Cynwyd.



SAVE THE DATE

ST. GEORGE'S DAY GALA | APRIL 22, 2023

*With an evensong service at Christ Church Philadelphia
followed by a gala dinner at
The Arch Street Meeting House at 320 Arch Street.*