



THE OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER OF
THE SOCIETY
OF ST. GEORGE,
PHILADELPHIA

The Dragon

SPRING 2024



The
SOCIETY
of
ST. GEORGE
PHILADELPHIA
1772

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The
SOCIETY
of
ST. GEORGE
PHILADELPHIA
1772

*The President, Trustees, and Officers of The Society of
St. George, Philadelphia request the pleasure of your company at the*

252ND
ST. GEORGE'S
DAY DINNER

THE 802ND ST. GEORGE'S DAY

SATURDAY, 20 APRIL 2024

THE PHILADELPHIA CLUB

1301 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

RECEPTION 6:00^{P.M.}

PROCESSION 7:15^{P.M.}

DINNER 7:45^{P.M.}

BLACK TIE | ORDERS AND DECORATIONS

THE SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE IS GRATEFUL TO



FOR ITS SUPPORT OF THE 2024 ST. GEORGE'S DAY DINNER

FROM THE PRESIDENT



First, I'd like to share with all of you, our statement from the Royal Society of St. George. This paper was the collective work of all of the branches of the society worldwide. I was very glad to share what I believe were important comments on the document.

With all the attacks on England, America, and western civilization, in general and throughout our history, this document was produced with the collective efforts of the RSSG branch chairmen to produce a statement setting out our position on these matters as a society.

This statement will be able to be used by all members and to share. I am sure the majority of Americans of English descent and others will support what we stand for—and we hope, will encourage more to join our ranks.

This month we will be celebrating our 252nd St. George's Day Dinner at the Philadelphia Club. As some of you are aware, this event marks the 802nd celebration of St. George's Day. The anniversary is a reference to the Synod of Oxford in 1222, the first time St. George's Day was elevated to a feast day. It promises to be a spectacular evening.

This year, we have taken the initiative to add a new class of supporters of the society—the elevated **Patron** classification for guests, who receive special benefits.

We are also very pleased that we have a corporate sponsor for the event. Our partner, the Fiduciary Trust Company of Radnor, is sponsoring the event for us, and this will certainly help with our financial position.

I'd also like to recognize our own Mark Lanyon who has recently been appointed as the Society Representative for the US and Canadian branches of the Royal Society of St. George. He has been very active in meeting and building relationships with us and other branches internationally.

Finally, I am sure you will join me in wishing His Majesty King Charles and the Princess of Wales a very speedy recovery from their respective cancer diagnosis.

All the best and have a happy St. George's Day!

Richard F. Booker, Esq.



POSITION STATEMENT

The Royal Society of St George (RSSG) is an independent, non-political, patriotic, and cultural association that stands up for England's history, values, traditions, and ideals.

We believe that England has made a huge and positive impact on the world.

We are proud that our country has long been seen throughout the world as a bastion of tolerance, democracy, and freedom of speech.

The RSSG believes that English people should be proud of our history and achievements as a nation, learn from it and not be ashamed, but inspired.

Members of the RSSG are loyal to our King, our Country, and our Flags (both the Union Flag and the Cross of St George).

We believe that it is vital to social cohesion and national unity for young people, to be taught traditional English values and given a balanced view of England's history.

We abhor the current trend of denigrating our national heroes.

The RSSG supports practical initiatives, charities, and grass-roots projects that help build stronger communities in England and the Commonwealth.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE

Mark Dewitt Lanyon

The year 2024 marks the 130th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Society of St. George (RSSG) in 1894 by Harry Christmas and Howard Ruff with the goal of bringing all the St. George's Societies under the banner of RSSG and promoting Englishness and the English way of life.

Prior to the founding of RSSG and prior to the American Revolution, St. George's Societies were founded in the American colonies. The purpose of these societies was to provide assistance to newly arriving British immigrants. Today the desire to help others by RSSG is evident in their supporting charitable causes.

The unrest in the American colonies and the time leading up to the American Revolution resulted in British Loyalists moving to Canada. These Loyalists, familiar with the American St. George's Societies, founded their own, including Halifax/Nova Scotia.

The RSSG's first Royal Patron was Queen Victoria. Every monarch up to Queen Elizabeth II has been the official patron of the RSSG. In 1963 Queen Elizabeth presented the RSSG with a Royal Charter. The Society, along with other similar organizations, is still waiting for news from the Palace about King Charles III taking on a similar role.

MEMBERSHIP

Join the Royal Society of St. George, where England's traditions and values thrive. With 130 years of history and Royal Charter granted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, we honor her memory and King Charles III's commitment to the unity of the UK and Commonwealth. As we celebrate our anniversary, our large network of branches worldwide welcomes all who cherish England's heritage. Together, we uphold loyalty, duty, and service to our beloved country, remaining as relevant today as ever. Membership is open to anyone who supports the aims and objectives of the Society.



Mark Dewitt Lanyon with Society President Rich Booker and his wife Pattie

OBJECTIVES

1. To foster a love of England and to strengthen England and the Commonwealth by spreading the knowledge of English history, customs, traditions and ideals.
2. To keep fresh the memory of those in all walks of life, who have served England and the Commonwealth in the past, to inspire leadership in the future.
3. To combat all activities that might undermine the strength of England or the Commonwealth.
4. To further British interests everywhere to ensure that St. George's Day is properly celebrated and to provide focal points all the world over where English men and women may gather together.

VISION

1. To be widely recognized as the premier English patriotic society.
2. To attract members from all walks of life.
3. To celebrate important dates in English history.
4. To support and encourage the young.
5. To support charitable causes.

MISSION STATEMENT

PROMOTING AND CELEBRATING
ENGLISHNESS, AND THE
ENGLISH WAY OF LIFE.

This is achieved by:

- Supporting the Monarchy, our Charter, democracy, free speech, and the rule of law.
- Being proud of English values, character, and achievement.
- Protecting England's heritage, history, tradition, and ideals.
- Embracing the diverse cultures within England, including local and regional identities.
- Encouraging the celebration of St. George's Day.
- Supporting England's role in maintaining the unity of the United Kingdom and of the Commonwealth.
- Recognizing that strength lies in shared values and ideals.

VALUES

Tradition, honesty, integrity, community, tolerance, humor, fair play, and a warmth of welcome.

MY ROLE IN RSSG

In 2023, I was appointed the RSSG Representative for the U.S. and Canadian Branches and Affiliated Societies (for sake of space, I will refer simply to Branch). As such my main functions are:

1. Assist each Branch to increase community awareness of who you are and what you stand for.
2. Assist in organizing local events and functions to promote each Branch and to bring increased awareness of who you are and by doing so increase membership.
3. Assist each Branch to come up with creative events that will draw many people to them.
4. Encourage each Branch to support relevant charitable causes as well as hold fundraisers for those charitable causes.
5. Be the liaison between the Branches and the RSSG Home Office in England.
6. Be the liaison between the Branches to share best practices that other Branches can benefit from.
7. Be the liaison between the Branches and the British Consulates, the British Embassy, and the Honorary British Consuls.

MY THREE SHORT TERM GOALS

1. To have more events that will highlight each Branch. To co-host events with other Societies and Organizations such as the English-Speaking Union and the St. Andrew's Society.
2. To increase membership in each Branch – especially young people.
3. To work on the retention of members.

CHARITY WORK

The St. George's Societies were originally founded to provide assistance to English immigrants. In keeping with that tradition, each Branch supports a variety of charitable causes. The Philadelphia Society provides scholarships for students studying in England, supports the Duke of Edinburgh International Award administered by Philadelphia Outward Bound School, and supports students who attend the St. James School.

IN CONCLUSION

For me it is an honor and a privilege to be the RSSG Representative to serve both the Branches and the Home Office.

Mark Lanyon is a member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, the Sons of the American Revolution, the St. Andrew's Society, Philadelphia, the St. George Society, New York, the Society of St. George, Philadelphia, the Royal Society of St. George, England, and the Order of St. George.





IN MEMORIAM

REVEREND GEORGE CLAYTON AMES III

NOVEMBER 26, 1944 - NOVEMBER 29, 2023

*A Gentleman.
A Scholar.
A Jolly Good Fellow.*

William F. Forbes

The Reverend George Clayton Ames, III, DDiv. You knew him as Clayton, or more formally as Chaplain Ames. Born in Korea, Clayton's life journey was a tapestry woven with threads of service, faith, and unwavering patriotism. As a young boy growing up in Ambler, he discovered the power of faith and music. His voice resonated through the halls of Lafayette College where he pursued his studies along with mandatory service in ROTC. Graduating in 1966, he continued his education by earning higher degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary and University of Edinburgh.

In the quiet moments of reflection, Clayton felt a calling—a divine whisper urging him to serve. So he donned the uniform of the United States Army and became a Chaplain, a beacon of hope for soldiers far from home. His presence brought solace to weary hearts and his prayers echoed across battlefields, bridging the gap between fear and faith. Then there was the First

Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry—a storied unit that has galloped through time, its hooves echoing the pulse of history. As their Chaplain, Clayton rode alongside them, in person or in spirit. He knew that duty was not just a word; it was a melody—a symphony of loyalty and devotion. He was most often sighted in the NCO club of the Troop Armory increasing the camaraderie of the unit and mentoring the troopers, both young and old. He loved the troop, and the troop loved him.

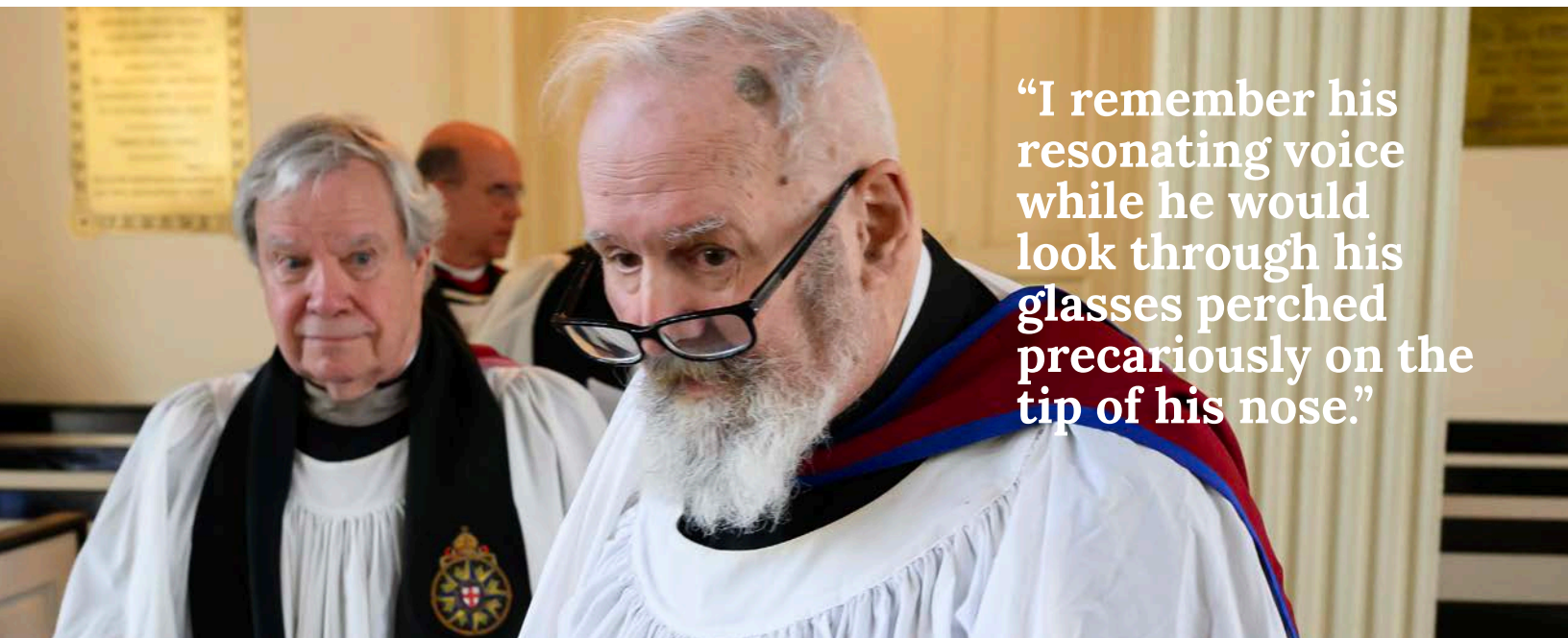
Clayton's service extended far beyond the military. He stood at the intersection of heritage and honor, serving as Chaplain General for many hereditary historical societies. The St. George Society of Philadelphia was among them. He served for more than 20 years as our Chaplain. With reverence, he preserved the stories of those who came before—men and women who shaped the course of nations. His words echoed in Church services and grand halls, reminding us that our roots are intertwined with courage, sacrifice, and resilience.

Clayton also loved the Phillies—the crack of the bat, the roar of the crowd. In those moments, he was not just a spectator; he was part of a collective heartbeat—a city united by a love for the game. And when the team clinched victory, his cheers echoed through the streets, carrying the spirit of Philadelphia on their wings. He was a dedicated season ticket holder for many years and pined during the off-season until the boys were back in town.

Clayton's blood also sang with the ancient melodies of the Highlands. Scotland he loved dearly. He traced his

Lafayette for homecomings and reunions. Here we would catch up on the worlds happenings, who was doing what, who got married, who had kids, and of course the Phillies. In his final days, he still wanted to hear about the happenings to keep a pulse on his flock. I have never met anyone who was so selfless and driven to be there for the people he loved.

And now, as the sun sets on this earthly chapter, I remember his resonating voice while he would look through his glasses perched precariously on the tip of his nose. His voice lingers in the hymns we sing, the prayers



“I remember his resonating voice while he would look through his glasses perched precariously on the tip of his nose.”

lineage through rugged glens and crumbling castles, feeling the pulse of generations long gone. Scotland was more than a place; it was a hymn—a reminder that our roots stretch across oceans and centuries. His reciting of the “Ode to the Haggis” during St. Andrew’s societies events was a wonder to behold.

I first met Clayton in 1992 when I was a freshman at Lafayette College. I was rushing Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity and he was there for alumni interviews. After becoming a member of the fraternity, it turns out Clayton’s role went far deeper than just another brother. He would regularly return to campus for fraternity events and rugby matches. After graduating, I moved down to the Philadelphia area where I was asked to go to the Troop for an event and, low and behold, there was Chaplain Ames. After I became a member, Clayton and I were not just brothers, we were now brothers-in-arms. Over the next 25 years, I would pick Clayton up from his center city home and drive him up to

we offer. His legacy is etched in the hearts of those who knew him—a mosaic of faith, service, and love. Everyone he met became a member of his flock. I cannot even count how many friends and people he conducted marriage services for. He was a shepherd who cultivated his flock. A man who had limitless patience while listening to the voices of those countless people over the years who now remember him fondly.

So, let us raise our voices—like the notes he would sing for Orpheus, like the cheers at a Phillies game, like the sound of the cavalry bugle, or the battle cries on a rugby field. Let us honor Clayton’s memory by living with purpose, by cherishing our heritage, and by embracing the call to serve.

Rest well, Brother mine.
Your song echoes through eternity.

CHRISTMAS AT ST. ASAPH'S

George Tyndall



Church of St. Asaph in Bala Cynwyd was the site of our December 9, 2023, service of Advent Lessons and Carols. With our connection to St. James School, their choirs and musicians presented a portion of the service with an emphasis on African American music and readings by Maya Angelou, all done with student participation and interspersed in the traditional form of Lessons and Carols.

The Rev. Andrew Kellner, rector of St. Asaph's, and one of our society chaplains officiated. The church was kind enough to waive the traditional fees for holding such an event.

The service was followed by a cocktail reception and buffet dinner catered by DiBruno Bros in the decorated Parish House with 38 guests in attendance. Greg and Renee Cantwell led us in singing some of our favorite Christmas music.



GLOBY AWARD WINNER

George Tyndall

The Globy Award recognizes individuals that have made significant contributions to education, journalism, culture, commerce and other areas. It's called a Globy for two reasons. One, it's from the Global Philadelphia Association, and two, it recognizes the kind of accomplishments that attract people from across the globe to our city.

The Global Philadelphia Association is a nonprofit dedicated to promoting Philadelphia as an influential World Heritage City and as a vital, diverse center for global affairs. In 2015, GPA helped secure Philadelphia's selection as America's first World Heritage City. The four pillars of the World Heritage

City Project are: Preserve and Celebrate Philadelphia's Historical and Cultural Assets; Build World Heritage City Awareness and Ownership; Educate Global Kids with Roots; and Extend Philadelphia's Global Reach.

The six recipients this time were Michael Gary, Head of Friends Select School; Michael Norris, Executive Director of Carpenters' Hall; Kathryn Ott Lovell, President and CEO of Philadelphia Visitor Center Corporation; Reverend Dr. Lorina Marshall Blake, President of IBX Corporation; The Right Reverend Daniel Gutierrez, Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania; and The Life Lifetime Achievement Award to Oliver St. Clair Franklin CBE, Honorary Consul, United Kingdom.

The event was held at The Westin Hotel on 17th Street on the 11th of December and was attended by over 300 guests. It was truly one of the most positive gatherings in some time.

Susan Gerrity National President of the DBE and Chair of The Commonwealth Group, Debbie Webster, President of The English-Speaking Union and George Tyndall, former President of The Society of St. George were all featured in a video presentation to highlight the many attributes that Oliver has offered the British Community in this city.



Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE, accepting the Lifetime Achievement Award

ST. GEORGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

T. Michael Poxon

IN 2023 FOUR STUDENTS SHARED \$11,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE SOCIETY OF ST GEORGE, PHILADELPHIA.

The Society's Scholarship Program is open to any student of English descent who resides within 50 to 75 miles of Philadelphia. The Board of Directors works closely with Arcadia University in Glenside, PA, the administrator of their large Study Abroad Programs for students from many colleges.

Once an English ancestor is confirmed by our historian and the application and amount of funding is approved by the board, Arcadia University permits the scholarship winners to select an English school or Summer Study Abroad program. Most popular are the Arcadia in London Summer Programs. Students can customize their 4-8 week London experience for their academic, personal, and professional goals. Students who need to maintain their financial aid eligibility can enroll in 6 credits during the two sessions.

As explained on the Arcadia University Study Abroad website, "Students choose among courses in photography, business, drama, journalism, marketing, politics, sociology, and art history. By adding the 3-credit Arcadia + Internship in Session 1 or Session 2, students can customize an extended, 6-credit program with a professional placement in the field of their choice. Internships are available in advertising, art, business operations, film and television, accounting, entrepreneurship, hospitality, journalism, law and politics (including Parliament), marketing and public relations, and theater."



THE FOUR STUDENTS AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS BY THE ST GEORGE SOCIETY FOR 2023 INCLUDE:

ERIN BARLOW FITZSIMMONS

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY, A DOUBLE MAJOR IN ECONOMICS AND MATHEMATICS, SPRING SEMESTER ARCADIA STUDY ABROAD, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON AND COLLEGE OF GLOBAL STUDIES. **\$3,000**



Before she graduated from Villanova University she spent her last college semester in the spring of 2023 at City University of London on the Arcadia University Summer Study Abroad Program.

She was able to continue taking courses in her majors, mathematics and economics, as well as a cultural class "Performing Arts in London," which included attending plays and concerts, visiting Cambridge and Oxford and other cultural sites throughout London and England. She is now employed as a full-time capital markets analyst.

"I am very thankful for the support of my university, my family, and the Society of St. George which allowed me not just to study and live in England, but to immerse myself in history, my personal genealogy, and an amazing culture. I have learned much about London and England, and I will always remember and appreciate this humbling and exciting experience. I have enjoyed every minute of my time in London, and I look forward to the day when I can return!"

Miss Fitzsimmons also had a 4-month internship at Trinity College Dublin as a data analyst and research assistant the year before she was awarded our scholarship to study in London.

Upon graduation, she spent the summer of 2023 as a sales and trading intern before being hired as a capital markets analyst and now works at MUFG Financial Group, New York City office, a worldwide organization.

GINA RUFO

IMMACULATA UNIVERSITY, HISTORY WITH PRE-LAW, SUMMER IN LONDON PROGRAM. **\$3,000**

As a student at Immaculata University, where she was studying history and taking pre-law courses, she elected to participate the Arcadia University Summer in London program at the conclusion of her undergraduate education. Finding an English ancestor was a revelation for Gina and it has encouraged her to study her genealogy in more detail. Gina thanks the Society of St. George for this incredible opportunity. Miss Rufo is now enrolled in law school.

JULIETTE RUCH

ARCADIA UNIVERSITY, ARCADIA IN LONDON, GLOBAL MEDIA WITH A CONCENTRATION IN FASHION DESIGN AT THE LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION. **\$2,500**

Miss Ruch is majoring in Global Media and Fashion Design at Arcadia University. She chose to enroll in the London

College of Fashion where she could take courses in both global media and fashion design. In high school she had single-handedly designed, constructed and sewed all the costumes for a production of *Beauty and the Beast*. In college she traced her genealogy and found her eligibility for the St. George scholarship through Arcadia University. Miss Ruch wanted to hone her fashion design skills and discover new techniques in one of the fashion capitals of the world.

DYLAN SCOTT LEVY

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY, BUSINESS AND POLITICS. ARCADIA STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM AT QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON FALL SEMESTER. **\$2,500**

Mr. Levy took every opportunity to explore London and England. With his parents they visited numerous cities and countries in Europe upon the completion of his studies. The whole experience was eye opening and motivational. Mr. Levy is considering applying to law school.



Past President Peter Hill with scholarship recipients Gina Rufo and Dylan Levy, along with Historian T. Michael Poxon at the Annual Meeting.

TUN TAVERN *Revival!*

Pat Dailey

The recorded history of The Society of the Sons of St. George tells us that our society was founded on April 23, 1772. And while that is absolutely true, while researching the history of the storied Tun Tavern I kept reading about it being the *founding place* of the Society of St. George. After multiple conversations with society members, and a thorough reading of the published history of the society, I was convinced that, once again, Wikipedia was not to be trusted.

Yet on one of my multiple trips to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania while searching pre-1770s editions of Philadelphia newspapers that had been scanned and made available to peruse at a computer, I came upon an advertisement at the bottom of page 1 of a 1741 edition of *The Pennsylvania Gazette* announcing an upcoming meeting of The Society of St. George at Tun Tavern. I was intrigued and excited to learn that the St. Andrew's Society and the United States Marines might not be the only organizations with a heritage at Tun Tavern!

Shortly thereafter I was reading a PhD thesis written in 2013 by a doctoral candidate, Vaughn Paul Scribner at The University of Kansas, titled "Imperial Pubs: British American Taverns as Spaces of Empire, 1700-1783." It provided me with the *eureka!* moment I was looking for. Mr. Scribner mentioned Tun Tavern multiple times in his research, but his last mention on page 186 of his 228-page thesis revealed:

John Adams happily noted that Philadelphia's St. George's Society, an elite association established for English connection and held in the Tun Tavern, had splintered by 1774, with patriots agreeing to meet at City Tavern and Loyalists meeting at Bunch of Grapes Tavern.

So the Society did indeed exist as a robust, functioning charity assisting indigent Englishmen arriving in Philadelphia, the largest city in North America, apparently well before 1772. It was the growing unrest and talk of independence that caused a schism among its members, forming The Sons of the Society of St. George that we know today.

Continued research of the history of Tun Tavern revealed yet another ethnic-centric charitable organization that had a heritage with the tavern—when it was known in the mid-1770s by another name: **Mullan's Tavern**. The Mullan family

had been the proprietors of the tavern since the 1740s, with Robert Mullan inheriting the business from his parents, Thomas and Peg Mullan. The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick utilized Tun Tavern ("Mullan's Tavern") for their quarterly meetings for almost four years, finding the tavern where the idea for The Friendly Sons was first discussed much too small for their extensive network of Irish immigrant merchants and tradesmen.

I surmise that Tun Tavern must have been fairly large for taverns of that day, as many "clubs" like the Freemasons used it as a meeting place. There must have been quite a demand for places that could accommodate large groups of twenty-five or more, as Tun Tavern had a reputation for multiple decades as a venue that would close its doors to its regular patrons in favor of hosting these monthly gatherings.

I decided to ask the help of ALL of the organizations with a heritage at Tun Tavern (now SIX) to join together and reestablish this historic tavern that has witnessed so much early American history as it offered them a place to meet, dine, and pursue their noble missions.

The Society of St. George however, has the honor of quite literally being the **first** of these six organizations, with their use of Tun Tavern predating all other groups that remain active to this day!

The Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that, in late 2025, will return Tun Tavern to the landscape of Philadelphia, quite literally a 5-minute walk from where it originally stood. By the time you are reading this, we have already closed on the land and secured the location for the tavern.

As a member of The Society of St. George, the Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation sees as your "birthright" the opportunity to share in the ownership and stewardship of the very tavern where the society first met.

Members of the society who purchase a customized copper mug or hand-made copper tankard will have their vessel hung from the rafters or displayed in a lighted glass case awaiting your arrival. The polished copper mug will come with a special coin that ensures that, as a member of the Society of St. George, your first drink is complimentary. Those who invest in a handmade tankard will find that this particular vessel is "bottomless"... member-owners of these tankards **drink for FREE** as a token of our appreciation for their generous donation in helping us reestablish Tun Tavern.

I hope members of the Society will join me in donating to not only recreate the place of the society's birth, but to create a place that will forever offer the society of St. George a share in the revenues to help it continue its charitable work for generations to come.



Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation, Inc. 501(c)(3) | Our mission is to rebuild and reestablish Tun Tavern as it was — a functioning mariner’s tavern reminiscent of colonial Philadelphia, serving period-influenced refreshments and food, and offering an educational experience through exhibits, historical documents, special events and entertainment.

Donations will be used to build The Tun™, Peg Mullan’s Beefsteak Club, a museum and Tun Alley. All profits from operations of The Tun™ will be donated in perpetuity to support veteran causes, Masonic charities, educational scholarships, and qualified charities as determined by The Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation’s independent Board of Directors.

What is the Tun Tavern?

Originally constructed in 1693 along Philadelphia’s waterfront, Tun Tavern became the iconic birthplace of six organizations that endure today: the United States Marine Corps, the United States Navy, the Pennsylvania Freemasons, the St. Andrew’s Society, the Society of St. George, and the Friendly Sons & Daughters of St. Patrick.



Who? The Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation, Inc. 501(c)(3) is governed by a diverse Board of Directors made up of leaders with significant business, military and nonprofit backgrounds.

When? The Tun™ is scheduled to open preceding the November 10, 2025 Marine Corps birthday, coinciding with the Navy and Marine Corps 250th Homecoming Celebration in Philadelphia.

Where? While the original location of the Tun Tavern is under I-95, the new location will be approximately 250 yards from the site, in the heart of Philadelphia’s Old City District.



Why Rebuild Tun Tavern?

Given the rich history of Tun Tavern, the Foundation seeks to rebuild the building, honoring the architecture, materials and layout as it existed in the 1770s, to offer a meeting place for the millions of Americans who can trace their organization’s lineage back to this one tavern.

How Can I Help?

Visit our website at thetun.org to contribute.
Purchase the available donation gifts.
Make a one-time or recurring donation.

Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation, Inc.

501(c)(3) FEIN 86-2185994
P.O. Box 52649
Philadelphia, PA 19115
www.thetun.org
tavernkeeper@tuntavernphila.org



Malcolm Bullock
with Oliver St. Clair
Franklin, CBE



EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SPOTLIGHT

Justin Ennis, Executive Director, Philadelphia Outward Bound School

In its 6th year of delivering the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program to local youth, Philadelphia Outward Bound School (POBS) has increased the number of participating students to 46. Twenty six students are engaged at the Bronze Level, 17 students are engaged at the Silver Level, and 2 students have progressed to the Gold Level. There is a core group of very active high school students who are driving toward their awards, hoping to finish their program before they graduate. Funds from The Society of the Sons of St. George have supported the staffing costs associated with POBS-managed programs as well as the independent activities for students in need of financial support.

POBS Award Program Manager Jenn Raymond connects individually with each student biweekly and continues to host the full cohort online on a monthly basis. This is a time to see friends safely, celebrate each other's progress and accomplishments, and discuss ways to lend support to each other, both with award activities and through personal struggles. Outside of this scheduled time, students also

engage directly with each other via an online chat group they established. Through the pandemic, this virtual connection was established, but it has lasted as an effective tool as students go away to college with the opportunity to continue their program and maintain connections with other program participants.

In addition to the group activities, students are required to meet weekly time commitments for their personal development in the categories of physical fitness, skills and service activity. They log their progress weekly in an online portal.

Sixteen students have enrolled in the Duke of Edinburgh program since the start of 2023: 15 started at the Bronze level and 1 started at Gold.

One student who has moved quickly through the program is Malcolm Bullock, who achieved his Silver award in 2023 after starting the program following an Outward Bound expedition in 2022. Involvement with the award has sparked a widespread interest in service to the community in his neighborhood (Strawberry Mansion) and has spurred him to challenge himself in ways his family never expected. He embarked on a 14-day expedition with the North Carolina Outward Bound School in the Great Smoky Mountains in

ROYAL PATRONAGE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS PROGRAM

Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE

The concept of patronage began in the Middle Ages with wealthy individuals and the crown sending funds and lending support to various church, military and other charitable organizations. This is a 900-year tradition. The late Monarch was a patron to over 600 organizations that King Charles has inherited. The king will take on most of these charities and redistribute his own 420 charities to other members of the royal family.

While royal patrons are expected to be present for special occasions, Prince Edward, the Duke of Edinburgh and Patron of the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards program had been extremely active in the management of this program. Founded by his late father, Prince Philip, in the 1950s to challenge youth to discover their passions. The program's uniqueness is its global reach and its openness to everyone between ages 14-25. All youth in the program must participate in an adventurous journey (without cell phones) and have an academic as well as a community project. Most important, they must be prepared to challenge themselves. The goal is empowerment of young people and provide support as they learn new skills. Once each program is achieved, a bronze, silver and gold medal is awarded. And yes, the gold is presented by the Duke of Edinburgh at St James's Palace.



Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE, and Prince Edward

On Sunday, March 10th at The Discovery Center, home of the Outward Bound School in Fairmount Park, nine students received their bronze medals and one received a bronze and silver medal. Managed by Jennifer Raymond, a native of Barbados and a 25-year staff member of The Outward Bound School, this was a joyous occasion as family members looked on as the youth received their medals.

Dr. Kathryn Kearns arrived with her medal and a photo of receiving her gold medal from Prince Philip in Australia. She was also the keynote speaker and reflected on the importance of

the award to her. Debbie Webster, an honorary board member of the Award and I handed out the medals. We are fortunate to have an organization here that the Royal Patron is visible and actively involved. Prince Edward, the Duke of Edinburgh has visited Philadelphia several times to support the program. We are also grateful for the support of the Society of St. George, Philadelphia who supports the program and student sponsorships.

summer 2023, fulfilling his Adventurous Journey requirement for his Silver award. Malcolm is eagerly pursuing his Gold award and was recently selected by Outward Bound Costa Rica to participate in a 15-day course in summer 2024 through which he will earn his SCUBA certification and will spend 5 days rehabilitating sea turtles as part of his residential project.

Another student who has robustly embraced the program is Shaalin Gamble, who also began participating in 2022. A "silent leader" in previous Outward Bound programs, Shaalin has been using the award to challenge herself to be more assertive and more of a visible leader in her school. For the skill section of her Bronze award, she completed her goal of playing piano for an audience, and is running for student body president at her high school this year—something that would have seemed unlikely a mere two years ago.

We were so glad that Emra Pak—one of our alumni from a 2021 summer expedition—joined the program in 2022. Her work within the award program has provided much-needed direction and forward momentum after major interruptions in her school and social life—she has attended three schools in the last 2.5 years due to changes in school district admissions policies. She has been building skills around researching art history and creating visual art related to her studies, and has been participating in event cleanups at West Philadelphia's Parent Infant Center as part of her service goal.

As of September 2022, Aaron Bonfante joined the Duke of Edinburgh team at POBS as the Award Leader. Aaron began working with POBS as a Field Instructor/Lead Facilitator during Spring 2022. In his new role, Aaron will assist with communication with students, facilitating communication between program participants by hosting virtual and in-person meet ups, and assisting students in setting up a timeline to achieve their goals. Aaron balances this part-time work with his full-time job as a Fund Analyst at SEI Investments.

On Sunday, March 17, 2024, 10 students and their families and supporters came to POBS's headquarters at The Discovery Center in East Fairmount Park for our first Duke of Edinburgh's International Award USA ceremony to celebrate their remarkable achievements and obtain their Bronze and Silver medals. Presenting the awards were Honorary British Consul Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE, along with Deborah Webster, Honorary Board Member of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award USA. Also present was Kathryn Kearns who spoke about receiving her Gold award from HRH Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh himself in 1968.

AWARD RECIPIENTS INCLUDED:

Sasha Benowitz	Bronze
Kyara Meading	Bronze
Jonah Wisniewski	Bronze
Reese Covalle	Bronze
Emra Pak	Bronze
Mogue Wisniewski	Bronze
Shaalín Gamble-Safro	Bronze
Manny Levine	Bronze
Malaika Bhullar	Bronze
Malcom Bullock	Bronze & Silver



Shaalín Gamble greeted by Oliver St. Clair Franklin, CBE



NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED AT ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting was held at Corinthian Yacht Club on Thursday, February 22, 2024. There were 43 members and guests in attendance, with a formal vote accepting the following group as members of The Society of St. George.

New members this year:

Audrey Michelle Adams
Victoria Leigh Adams
Patrick Francis Dailey
Erin Fitzsimmons
Matthew David Gilbert
Dylan Scott Levy
Kenneth Line
Juliette Ruch
Gina Rufo

(As they were unable to attend the 2023 meeting when they became members, Diane Canning and William David Wright were presented with their rosettes this year).

We were also pleased to welcome scholarship recipients Gina Rufo and Dylan Levy who each spoke about their experiences in England and what they are doing now.



THE BRITISH AND COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS SOCIETIES

2024 CELEBRATION AND FUNDRAISER PLANNING UNDERWAY

The Committee for The British & Commonwealth of Nations Societies met recently at Ormiston Mansion for the first planning meeting for the 2024 event. The organization is made up of the following societies, several of which were represented at the meeting:

Australian Society, British Officers Club, Baronial Order of Magna Charta, Barbados Society of Pennsylvania, Caribbean Festival and Cultural Committee, Daughters of the British Empire, The English-Speaking Union, KSM Soy Ministries, Oxford & Cambridge Society, Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre, Royal Heritage Society, St. Andrews Society, Scotch Irish Society, Society of St. George, Philadelphia, team Jamaica Bickle and The Welsh Society.

Every two years, the committee, lead by Susan Gerrity, organizes a fundraiser to bring all of these groups together to celebrate themselves and raise money for a worthy cause. This year's charity will be Special Olympics PA (SOPA) and the event is scheduled for Sunday, September 29. If you would like to get involved in the planning and promotion of this event, please contact Susan Gerrity at susangerrity@verizon.net.



Membership Chair Will Forbes, Pat Dailey, Gina Rufo, Dylan Levy, Kenneth Line, Diane Canning, William Wright, and President Rich Booker



“So, Andre! ... The king wants to know how you’re coming with ‘St. George and the Dragon.’”

MOVEABLE FEAST

George Tyndall

This is part two in a series of articles on the various dinner and meeting locations which the Society of St. George (formerly the Society of the Sons of St. George) held throughout the city of Philadelphia from the society's inception in the 18th century.

The dinner locations are not necessarily in exact chronological order based on the availability and ease of information at the time of creating this historical sketch.

MERCHANT'S HOTEL

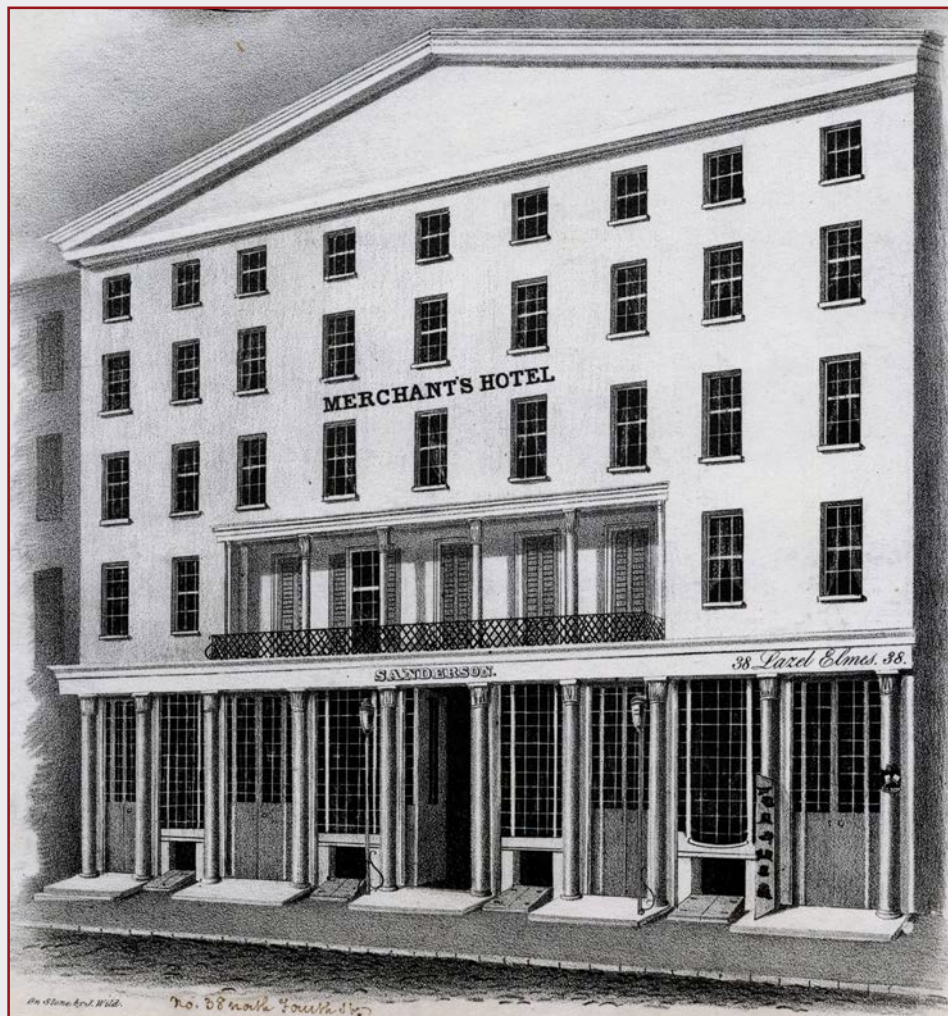
Merchant's Hotel was the meeting place twice for our society, first in April 1838 and then again in July 1841. It was located at 38 North 4th Street below Arch Street.

It was a five story hotel with a balcony built in 1837. (We must have been one of their earlier patrons as the hotel had only been in existence for roughly a year).

The hotel was designed by William Strickland (1788-1854), the well-known architect for many famous Philadelphia structures. He was born in Navesink, NJ, the son of a master carpenter. His first commission was the Georgian Gothic design for Philadelphia's Masonic Hall that sat on Chestnut Street until it burned in March of 1819. Strickland's major work is Second Bank of the United States at 420 Chestnut Street. Others of note are the United States Naval Asylum; United States Mint that sat on Chestnut Street above 13th where the Widener Building is now and formally housed J. E. Caldwell Jewelers; the Mechanics Bank at 22 South Third Street; and most importantly the Philadelphia Merchant Exchange Building located at 3rd and Walnut Streets.

The hotel's proprietor was Joseph M. Sanderson, whose surname adorned the entranceway. There was a tenant Lazel Elmes who owned a hat shop with hats displayed near the doorway. Merchant's Hotel was a premier location

visited by several presidents and was used as the presidential campaign headquarters of James Buchanan in 1856. The building was destroyed by fire in 1966. There are prints showing the building and all the commercial activity on 4th Street.



BUNCH OF GRAPES

In the late 1760s and early 1770s a savvy marketer named Josiah F. Davenport operated an inn and tavern known as Bunch of Grapes. He established his inn in the late spring of 1768, and it was located on 3rd Street between Market and Arch Streets on the east side.

Our society held one of its earliest meetings in October 1773 at this location. He proclaimed that 3rd Street is “becoming one of the grandest Avenues into this City.”

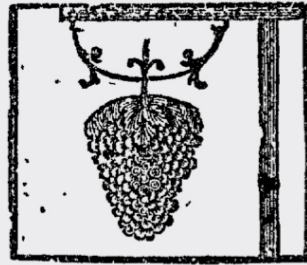
The Bunch of Grapes “stands in the Neighborhood of many principal Merchants and capital Stores.” It was considered to be a swank neighborhood and located “very near the Market.” It also offered the “best Liquors” and the “elegant and spacious” accommodations for guests.

As a way to encourage more patrons to his tavern, Josiah placed ads in newspapers both in Philadelphia and New York to attract travelers for both business and pleasure. He emphasized the amenities of the neighborhood as well as the quality of his food and drink served.

The innkeeper proclaimed that “his house is extremely well calculated for the accommodation of GRAND and SHERIFF’S JURIES.” Davenport made reference that he had made strides in that market, that juries had “honoured him with their commands for two years past.” He had been serving those patrons from the start of his business prior to his advertisements.

Davenport’s first advertisements ran in the Pennsylvania Chronicle in which appeared a sign marking the location

of his business establishment with a bunch of grapes suspended from a sign post (see illustration). Using this image was an added expense as most printers had in their own collections of woodcuts of more common images such as horses, houses, ships and sadly even slaves. Josiah had to commission the woodcut to be used in his advertisements, showing his determination to promote his



business, considering it an important investment to build his brand. It’s also important to note that his building had previously been home to a prior inn named “Bull’s Head.” This all aided in strengthening his brand in Philadelphia so that many would visit his “genteel HOUSE of ENTERTAINMENT...for

the best fare and civilest treatment,” whether for “business or recreation.”

Josiah Davenport pledged his “constant and unwearied attention to give them satisfaction” and promised that he “furnish(ed) himself with everything necessary for that purpose.” He likened the idea of attracting groups and planned meetings that generated better revenue than catering to individual patrons. Hence, he must have attracted the attention of The Society of the Sons of St. George to hold such a meeting at this location. He figured

that if such groups stayed there on business, he had a leg up on competitors for other occasions and juries choosing Bunch of Grapes helped to establish his reputation.

He was a modern day marketer promoting his inn as an attractive location for meetings and events.

Philadelphia, May 26.

THE Subscriber begs leave to acquaint his Friends and the Public, that he has removed into that large and commodious Inn, situated in Third Street (between Market and Arch Streets) for some time known by the Name of the Bull's Head, (but is now called the Bunch of Grapes) where he proposes to keep a genteel House of Entertainment, for Travellers and others, who may depend on the best Fare and civilest Treatment, as it will be his constant Endeavour to give the most perfect Satisfaction to all who shall favour him with their Custom.

He has furnished his House with the best Liquors, as well as every other requisite suitable to his Design; and had also prepared Stables and Sheds (which are as good as any in this Province) for the reception of Horses and Carriages, which shall be taken the utmost Care of.

His House is very well calculated for an Inn, and has the Advantage of an elegant and spacious Room for the Accommodation of large Companies, who may have Occasion to meet on Business or Recreation.

When it is considered that Third-Street, is becoming one of the grandest Avenues into this City,--that the House stands in the Neighbourhood of many principal Merchants and capital Stores,--and that it is also very near the Market, the Propriety of a good Inn, in such a Place, will undoubtedly be generally allowed,---He therefore hopes that his Endeavours to serve and oblige, will (by the generosity of the Public) be attended with some Benefit to himself.

JOSIAH F. DAVENPORT.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SPOTLIGHT

ST. JAMES SCHOOL

David Kasievich

Now in our 13th year, St. James school has grown from an inaugural class of 15 fifth graders to a thriving middle school serving 85 students in grades 4 - 8, 141 graduates in high school, college and career pathways and hundreds of student families and community members. St. James School's mission is to increase educational equity within the Allegheny West neighborhood of North Philadelphia, leveraging whole-child education to transform students' lives and uplift the community as a whole.



Each St. James School student receives a scholarship to attend the school at a cost of \$50,000 per year. The scholarship provides each student with the same level of education offered by the finest private schools across the region. Our students often lack basic supports that are taken for granted, such as quality medical, dental and mental health care and enrichments such as instrument lessons and opportunities to learn and play various sports. St. James School scholarships provide these supports which enable our students to succeed in all areas of life as they grow.

Significant recent accomplishments include, the 18 students in the graduating class of 2023 are attending a selective group of high schools in the Philadelphia area, with 5 students attending boarding schools (Westtown School, Church Farm School) and our first graduate to attend The Baldwin School. In total, our 71 high-school aged graduates are attending 27 different high schools across the region. Graduates from the classes of 2015 thru 2019 (our first 5 graduating classes) attend 15 colleges and universities including, Howard University, West Chester

University and La Salle University. Of the 69 St. James School alumni who are eligible for a high school diploma, 88% (61 of 69) have achieved it. We are working with the students who have yet to secure their diploma. Furthermore, 68% (47 of 69) are either attending or have graduated from college or a post-secondary training program.

Notable developments on campus include our partnership with the non-profit Black Girls Love Math (BGLM). In January 2023, BGLM began offering a twice weekly afternoon enrichment at St. James School. BGLM's goal is to exponentially increase the number of Black girls in STEM careers. Currently, only 2% of STEM jobs are held by Black women. Our Principal, Dave McDonough notes that 15 of the 17 girls in BGLM earned an A or B in math in the 4th and final marking period that concluded in June 2023. BGLM is continuing to offer this enrichment in the 2023-2024 academic year. According to the group's founder Atiyah Harmon, "Black girls don't have to be good in math. They just have to want to get better at it."



Our music program grew this year with the addition of The St. James School Concert Band, led by Band Director Allie Sinatra. The program has been met with great enthusiasm; 35 of our 85 students participated this past academic year and so far this year, 33 students have joined. Ms. Sinatra works with each grade 5th-8th four times a week. She also hosts an after-school enrichment program, twice a week, where students practice individually or in small groups.

Our after-school enrichment program has returned to pre-COVID levels; Monday through Thursday, students can select up to 2 afternoon enrichments a day from a wide variety of topics including: lacrosse, karate, World Explorers Geography Club,



Garden Club, Improv Theatre Group, ballroom dancing and song writing; to name only a few. Every student in grades 4 thru 8 has an individual daily schedule, tailored to meet their interests.

John Macon III, a member of the St. James School class of 2017 and current junior at Valencia College recently observed, "Students only know what they experience." At St. James School we are making sure that our students experience as much of what the world has to offer as possible.

The partnership between St. James School and the Philadelphia Chapter of the St. George Society is a partnership that matters to the fruitfulness of our students, their families and our neighborhood. Thank you for your continued interest and support of St. James.

Please let me know if you wish to visit to learn more.

You can contact me directly at dkasievich@stjamesphila.org to schedule your tour.





2024 EVENTS

April 20 St. George's Day Dinner

September 29 Commonwealth Event

Fall 2024 Statue Event

December 15 Christmas Celebration

SOCIETY *Merchandise*



Winter Cap
\$35



Blazer Patch
\$40



250th Anniversary
Challenge Coin
\$20



Small Medal \$30
Collar Medal \$45



Rosette
\$15



Neck
Ties
\$35



Flag Pin
\$15



250th Gala
Booklet
\$10



Cummerbund
\$30



Historical Booklet Own your copy of this softbound version of the 1923 book covering the history of The Society of the Sons of St. George for a suggested donation of \$25 or more (plus \$10 for shipping and handling).

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