

Historical Society of the Episcopal Church

MEMBERSHIP

Officers:

Dr. Thad W. Tate, Williamsburg, Va., *president*
The Rev. Dr. Alfred A. Moss, Jr., Arlington, Va., *first vice president*
Dr. Eric L. McKittrick, New York, N.Y., *second vice president*
The Rev. William M. Bennett, Austin, Tex., *treasurer*
Dr. Thomas A. Mason, Indianapolis, In., *secretary*

Board Members: (year elected to three-year term)

Dr. Ruth Ann Alexander, Brookings, S.D.
The Rev. Dr. John E. Booty, Center Sandwich, N.H.
Dr. Henry Warner Bowden, New Brunswick, N.J. (1999)
Dr. James E. Bradley, Pasadena, Ca.
The Rev. Dr. Winston B. Charles, Raleigh, N.C. (1997)
The Rev. Laurence D. Fish, Trenton, N.J.
Alexandra S. Gressitt, Richmond, Va. (1998)
Dr. Alan L. Hayes, Toronto, Ont. (1999)
Dr. David L. Holmes, Charlottesville, Va.
Grant LeMarquand, Ambridge, Pa.
The Rev. Dr. Eugene Y. Lowe Jr., Evanston Ill. (1997)
The Rev. J. Barrett Miller, Redlands, Ca.
Dr. Alda Marsh Morgan, Berkeley, Ca. (1999)
Dr. Robert Bruce Mullin, New York, N.Y. (1998)
The Rev. Dr. Robert W. Prichard, Alexandria, Va. (1999)
The Rev. Dr. William L. Sachs, Wilton, Conn. (1998)
Dr. Peter W. Williams, Oxford, Oh.
The Rev. Dr. John F. Woolverton, Center Sandwich, N.H.

Ex Officio Board Members

The Rt. Rev. Bennett J. Sims, Hendersonville, N.C.
The Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold III, New York, N.Y.
Pamela Chinnis, Washington, D.C.
Stephen C. Duggan, New York, N.Y.
The Rt. Rev. Mary Adelia R. McLeod, Burlington, Vt.
The Rev. Rosemari Sullivan, New York, N.Y.
Mark J. Duffy, Austin, Tex.

Representatives of the Commission at General Convention

The commission authorizes the Rt. Rev. Wayne P. Wright, House of Bishops, and the Rev. Dr. Robert Girard Carroon, House of Deputies, to receive nonsubstantive amendments to the report.

SUMMARY OF THE SOCIETY'S WORK

The Historical Society of the Episcopal Church, by General Convention Resolutions, is both the designated publisher of the church's historical journal and the historiographer of the church. It publishes the journal, *Anglican and Episcopal History* (formerly the *Historical Magazine of the Protestant Episcopal Church*) under the editorship of the Rev. Dr. John F. Woolverton. The Rev. Dr. John E. Booty bears the primary historiographical responsibility, and the Presiding Bishop has designated him Historiographer of the Episcopal Church.

During the past triennium the Historical Society's Board of Directors has continued to strive, as a previous report expressed it, "to develop a broader historical consciousness on the part of the Episcopal Church." Much of that effort has concentrated on the Society's active publication and research programs, which are described more fully in succeeding paragraphs of this report.

The June 1997 annual meeting of the Society, held jointly with the National Episcopal Historians and Archivists and the Episcopal Women's History Project, took place in Pittsburgh in June 1997. It was open to the public and featured a program based on the theme "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: Anglican Visions of Hope and Apocalyptic: A Conference on the New Century." Historical papers, panel discussions, and a keynote speaker raised the historical consciousness of those in attendance. The 1998 and 1999 meetings were held at the Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, and Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, respectively. The Society also held its traditional General Convention dinner in 1997 with the Rev. Dr. Richard A. Norris, Jr., professor of church history at Union Theological Seminary in New York, as the featured speaker.

The journal, *Anglican and Episcopal History*, has continued its effort to serve the Episcopal Church with thoughtful articles on matters of contemporary concern such as the Fall 1998 issue on the General Ordination Examinations. That issue is a fine example of the Society's working in conjunction with one agency of the Episcopal Church, the General Board of Examining Chaplains, to produce an historical study of one aspect of the church's life that would be useful to the whole church. By sending copies of that issue to the Commissions on Ministry in every diocese, the Historical Society made an important contribution to the task of selecting and training clergy. The issue has also been read by other denominations as they try to improve their own clergy deployment systems. The journal has extended its international coverage, internationalized its editorial board, and published special theme issues such as that of June 1998, which focused on the Anglican Church in China and examined American, Canadian, and English missionary efforts at a critical time for the possibility of the growth of Christianity in China.

The Society's monograph series, *Studies in Anglican History*, has published four titles to date in cooperation with the University of Illinois Press. Those published are: John Woolverton's *The Education of Phillips Brooks* (1995), Peter Iver Kaufman's *Prayer, Despair, and Drama: Elizabethan Introspection* (1996), Jeffrey S. Chamberlain's *Accommodating High Churchmen: The Clergy of Sussex, 1700-1745* (1997), and Robert W. Prichard's *The Nature of Salvation: Theological Consensus in the Episcopal Church, 1801-1873* (1997). We currently have one manuscript nearing final form, three others in process of revision,

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and a number of others in development. The series editor, Peter W. Williams, is now assisted in the editorial process by the members of the Projects and Grants Committee, who collectively serve as the series's Editorial Committee.

Beginning in 1997, the Historical Society has reactivated its Research Grant Program. Up to \$5,000 is awarded annually for historical research in the history of various aspects of the churches of the Anglican Communion. Eight grants have been awarded. The recipients have been: The Rev. William L. Wipfler, Dr. Joanna Gillespie, Ms. Nancy Benvenga, Dr. Edward L. Bond, The Rev. Robert L. Semes, Dr. Brad Faught, Dr. Timothy Lockley, and Dr. Alda Marsh Morgan. Projects have ranged from deaconess training programs to a history of the Episcopal Church in the Dominican Republic.

The Society is holding its 2000 annual meeting in Denver to coincide with the General Convention and will at the same time again sponsor its Convention Dinner on July 7. The 2001 annual meeting will take place June 23–27 at the Wycliffe-Trinity Library of the University of Toronto in conjunction with a major conference marking the tercentenary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (SPG). The conference, for which planning is under way, will be a joint effort of the National Episcopal Historians and Archivists, the Episcopal Women's History Project, the Canadian Church Historical Society, the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (the successor to the SPG), and the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church.

REPORT OF THE HISTORIOGRAPHER OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

During the past three years, I have been active with the boards of the Historical Society, the National Episcopal Historians and Archivists, and the Archives of the Episcopal Church. I have been a keynote speaker at the conventions of the Dioceses of Idaho and Eastern Michigan and have conducted clergy conferences for the Dioceses of El Camino Real and Florida—all on historical subjects. Writings include a book on Richard Hooker (recently published) and contributions to the *Sewanee Theological Review*, *Anglican and Episcopal History*, and *The Living Church*. In addition there have been important (to me) articles in the *Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation* (Anglicanism and the Book of Common Prayer) and the *SPCK Handbook of Anglican Theologians* (Richard Hooker). While a visiting professor at the Virginia Theological Seminary, I addressed the annual conference of Scholarly Engagement with Anglican Doctrine (SEAD) and preached and taught in numerous parishes in the Dioceses of Washington and Virginia. Finally, I have served as a resource to various news media and am mentoring the Bishop of New Hampshire as he writes a new history of his diocese.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Booty

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Historical Society does not receive any funds from the General Convention for its activities. Membership fees and donations have funded its historiographical activities. A successful endowment fund drive has enabled the Society to strengthen its activities so that it needs to rely on the General Convention only for the expenses of the Episcopal Historiographer.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMING TRIENNIUM

The Society continues to look for ways to increase its membership and to enhance further its working relationships with the Episcopal Women’s History Project and the National Episcopal Historians and Archivists (NEHA). A particularly promising development is the recent decision of the Society to help support the NEHA publication *The Historiographer*, which now serves as a joint newsletter for both organizations. The Society has also formed a subcommittee to explore the possibility of establishing an archive for the recording and preservation of documents and oral histories of leaders of African-American Episcopal clergy and laity. The Society anticipates that the formation of such a collection for scholarly use will become one of its major projects for the future.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE TRIENNIUM

Office and travel expenses of the Historiographer

	2001	2002	2003
Travel	\$4,700	\$4,700	\$4,700
Office	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
Total	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$5,200
			\$15,600

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution A062 Funding the Office of Historiographer of the Episcopal Church

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That there be appropriated,
- 2 from the Assessment Budget of General Convention, the sum of \$15,600 for the
- 3 triennium for the expenses of the Historiographer of the Episcopal Church.

Explanation

The General Convention has authorized the position of Historiographer of the Episcopal Church. Since 1988 the Rev. Dr. John E. Booty has fulfilled with distinction the duties of that position, for which the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church expresses its gratitude. Dr. Booty has recently resigned as Historiographer, and the appointment of his successor by the Presiding Bishop and the House of Bishops is pending.