

International Berkeley Society
Annual Meeting
Saturday, 19 January 2008
Whitehall, Middletown, Rhode Island

Officers present: Dr. Stephen Daniel (president), Dr. Timo Airaksinen (vice-president), Dr. Nancy Kendrick (secretary-treasurer), Dr. Maureen Lapan (archivist).

Members present: Mr. Vince Arnold, Ms. Nancy Bredbeck, Ms. Cornelia Schacht, Mr. Curtis Magee, Ms. Dana Magee, Ms. Fun Jenkins, Mr. Richard Cucchiara, Mr. Richard Grosvenor, Ms. Margot Grosvenor, Mr. Richard Dunlap, Ms. Joanne Dunlap, Mr. Brian Kiniry, Mr. Dennis Stark.

Non-members present: Mr. Romin Koebel, Ms. Breaux Daniel, Mr. Robert Amarantes.

Welcome and Call to Order. The Society was welcomed to Whitehall—and the Berkeleys to Newport—by Ms. Margot Grosvenor, president of the National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the State of Rhode Island. Dr. Daniel then called the meeting to order. He thanked the Colonial Dames for making Whitehall available and for helping prepare the reception that preceded the meeting. He also used the opportunity to express condolences to Ms. Amy Garrison (the Society's recording secretary), whose aunt's death prevented her from being in attendance. Breaux Daniel volunteered to take the minutes of the meeting.

Minutes. After members reviewed the minutes from the 2007 meeting, Nancy Kendrick moved to waive reading of the minutes (second: Maureen Lapan); approved unanimously. Margot Grosvenor moved that the minutes be accepted (second: Vince Arnold); approved unanimously.

Commenting on the minutes from the previous meeting, the president thanked Cornell College (Iowa) and Texas A&M University for their continued support of the Society in terms of copying, mailing costs, and computer website maintenance.

Secretary/treasurer report: Nancy Kendrick

- Books continue to be donated to the Society's Whitehall library. The most recent was *Reexamining Berkeley's Philosophy*, edited by Stephen Daniel (University of Toronto Press, 2007), which was published with help from a subvention provided last year by the IBS.
- Ms. Heather Mills, a philosophy graduate student now at the University of North Carolina, was very helpful last summer in getting wireless DSL internet connections set up in Whitehall. The resident scholars were grateful to have the service available last year. The telephone company Verizon has offered the Society a free three-month connection, which will take us through May. We will pay for June-August; what will happen in the fall is as yet unknown.
- The 2007 financial report (see attached) indicates that the IBS currently has \$7273.65 in its accounts, \$4746.02 of which is uncommitted. Last year there was a significant increase in our annual income, with dues payments almost doubling, Whitehall library

contributions more than doubling, and contributions to a new fund to support research. The number of members contributing to the Whitehall library rose from 27 in 2006 to 77 in 2007; and 20 members contributed to the new research fund. The increases are linked to two factors: Genevieve Migely's reminders (through email and surface mail) and the introduction of online dues renewal and donation payments through PayPal.

A question was raised about why the Society has both a checking account (holdings: \$2167.37) and a business investment account (holdings: \$5106.28). Dr. Kendrick explained that our annual income is sufficient to cover our usual expenses. Those contributions are deposited into our checking account (which is a non-interest bearing account). Our other, previously acquired holdings earn interest in the business investment account; they are always available for withdrawal if needed.

Timo Airaksinen noted that the treasurer's report did not list the Society's payment of \$400 to support last year's Helsinki conference. Apparently, Dr. Daniel had provided that amount to the conference organizers but had not been reimbursed. Curtis Magee moved to reimburse Dr. Daniel for that amount (seconded: Brian Kiniry); approved unanimously.

After some discussion about the relation between the Research Fund and the Staley Fund, Dr. Kendrick moved to combine the two as the "Mary Staley Research Fund" (seconded: Joanne Dunlap); passed unanimously. In passing, Dr. Daniel noted that a DVD copy of a film about George Berkeley, "The Dean of Thin Air," is sent to new or renewing members who donate \$10 or more to the fund and who have not received previous copies.

Membership report by Genevieve Migely (presented by Dr. Kendrick):

- In the past, members who had not paid their dues for several years were kept on the membership list. This year only those who have paid dues in the last three years have been retained. That initially meant a drop from 150 to 100 names, but recent new members have bumped that number over 120. Reminders (by email and surface mail) from Dr. Migely and the availability of PayPal payments have resulted in a 30% increase in annual membership dues payments.

Membership numbers continue to increase slowly. Last summer one of the Whitehall resident scholars, Cynthia Grund (University of Southern Denmark), increased awareness of Berkeley with presentations at various local functions. "George Berkeley in Middletown" by Elisabeth Herschbach appeared in *Rhode Island Home, Living, & Design* [vol. 4, #7 (July 2007), 12-14]. Presenters at the June 2008 Berkeley conference in Newport will be required to be members of the IBS. IBS membership forms will be made available at Whitehall to allow visitors to join.

Nancy Bredbeck has set up a website for Whitehall (<http://whitehallmuseumhouse.org/>) that is now linked to the IBS website (<http://georgeberkeley.tamu.edu/>).

Old Business

- The Society sponsored international conferences in Helsinki, Finland (August 2007) and Gaeta, Italy (September 2007). Scholars from around the world attended.

- The Society sponsored a session at the American Philosophical Association meeting in Baltimore (December 2007). It attracted 34 attendees, a significantly greater number than comparable sessions.
- The major Berkeley event in 2008 will be the Newport conference at the Redwood Library, June 26-28. Because this is the same weekend as the Newport Flower Show, the twenty-three international scholars who will make presentations on various aspects of Berkeley's thought have been encouraged to make early reservations at bed-and-breakfast locations near the Redwood. The general public will be invited to attend a presentation by Cynthia Grund on Berkeley in virtual reality at the Redwood. Participants and their families will be invited to walking tours of the Redwood and historic Newport, and a bus tour of Berkeley-related sites outside Newport (including the Old Narragansett Church and Smith's Castle). The bus tour will end at Whitehall, where the conference buffet reception will be held on Saturday night.
 - Participants will be asked to pay a \$25 registration fee for the conference. Non-IBS members who attend the conference will pay \$35. The cost of the buffet (waived for those who help serve) will be \$20.
 - In appreciation to the Redwood for allowing us to use the Library for the conference, the IBS has agreed to provide the Library with a brochure highlighting Berkeley-related sites in the Newport area. Maureen Lapan will coordinate that effort.
 - Nancy Bredbeck will coordinate the walking tour of historic Newport, which will start at the Redwood, pass by the Old Stone Mill and other historic spots, and end at Trinity Church. She will ask Dr. John Hattendorf (Naval War College historian) to guide the tour.
- Dr. Kendrick moved that the Society provide \$750 to help defray costs of the conference (seconded: Richard Grosvenor); approved unanimously.

New Business

There was a brief discussion of the possibility of a Society-sponsored trip to Bermuda. No action was taken.

Mr. Arnold moved to adjourn (seconded: Mr. Grosvenor); approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Breaux Daniel

International Berkeley Society
Financial Report
1/1/07-12/31/07

Business Checking Account

Beginning Balance 1/1/07		\$1466.37
Deposits		
Dues Income	\$1487.00	
Contributions -- Whitehall	\$ 483.00	
Contributions -- Research	\$ 235.00	
Sale of cards, etc.	\$ 35.00	
Total Additions		\$2240.00
Payments		
S. Daniel (book costs)	\$500.00	
Gaeta Conference	\$400.00	
RI Secretary of State	\$ 20.00	
NSCDA -- Whitehall	\$200.00	
Verizon online	\$321.78	
Mailing	\$ 43.73	
File cabinet	\$ 53.49	
Total Payments		<u>(\$1539.00)</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/07		\$2167.37

Business Investment Account

Beginning Balance 1/1/07		\$5090.97
Interest	\$ 15.31	
Ending Balance 12/31/07		\$5106.28

Total Funds **\$7273.65**

Committed		
Study Center	\$1992.63	
Research Fund	\$ 235.00	
Staley Fund	\$ 300.00	
Total Committed Funds		\$2527.63
Total Uncommitted Funds		\$4746.02

Nancy Kendrick, Secretary-Treasurer

Comparative Data 2006, 2007

	2006	2007
Dues Income	\$856.79	\$1487.00
Whitehall Contributions	\$180.00	\$483.00
Research Fund Contributions	\$0	\$235
Total Expenses	\$1027.55	\$1539.00
Number of members contributing to Whitehall	27	77
Number of members contributing to Research	0	20