Godiva Descendants Gather in Washington, D.C.

The Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva met April 13, 2014 in Washington, D.C., in a festive inaugural meeting that was short on speeches and featured poetry readings, songs and other tributes to our famous ancestor.

Lady General Davine Roberts presided over the gathering, in the historic Army and Navy Club, in a room graciously loaned to us by the Society of the Justiciars. Forty-seven people attended the event. In keeping with the inclusive nature of the Society, members included women and men, and all ages — the youngest person there was 14; the oldest member, whoever he/she was, wasn’t telling.

“I could never have imagined that the Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva would have taken wings, flown so far, and grown so fast in just five months,” the Lady General remarked after the meeting. “I did not expect this to happen, and I am truly amazed and very excited about our growth.” The Lady General has worked tirelessly to get the Society off to a rousing start, and she has been ably assisted by officers and members of the Society who have put in long hours to make sure the club is on a strong membership, financial and philanthropic footing. The inaugural meeting gave these new members a chance to relax and enjoy each other’s company: We are cousins, after all.

The Lady General’s Message

Dear Members: How quickly it turned to summer, and it seems every day is hotter than the last hot day. Well, things are continuing to be hot and hopping with the Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva since our Founding Meeting on April 13th. We had an excellent attendance, and I thank all those who made the extra effort to be there. I can certainly say that this is a fun group, especially with our entertainment. We enjoyed the reading of original poetry titled “The Legend of Lady Godiva” written by our very own Poet Laureate Dianne Boren and read by our Scholarship Chairman Chrissy Herreid. Our Minstrel General Karen Hall lived up to her beautiful voice...
reputation by singing Peter and Gordon’s hit, “Godiva.” Many of us were tapping our toes.

There are numerous people who worked very hard to make our first meeting a memorable one. The list is quite long as you can imagine, and most were thanked verbally at our meeting except for one. Grantham Wood always does a very nice job of showcasing his flower arranging and decorating talents. Since our society meeting followed the meeting of the Order of Descendants of the Justiciars, Grantham was gracious to allow SDLG to continue to enjoy his flower arrangements during our meeting. Grantham is a member of both societies. Thanks goes to Eric Nielsen and Melissa Fischer for the terrific pictures they took at our Founding Meeting. Corresponding Secretary General Ann Waggaman deserves much credit for the very nice directory which was emailed to members on May 19, 2014.

Many good things have happened since our first applications were processed and approved on October 20, 2013. We are now in the chartering stage of membership, and we are continuing to grow. As of June 1, 2014, we have 172 members with many applications in the works. Our Registrar General Maureen McGowan-Singer and I get referrals, applications and emails almost daily. Our list of Gateway Ancestors is growing and making it easier for prospective members to complete their application. Many thanks to those who have recommended SDLG to others. Don’t forget about our Facebook pages, as we have two of them – one closed and one open. Just Google Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva, which is a open group, and Society of the Descendants of Lady which is closed. Please go to the website on Facebook and request permission to be added to the latter group. You can be a member of both groups, if you wish. We are still looking for someone to do a web page for us. If you would like to do this for our society, please let me know.

The Godiva Scholarship is getting off the ground with the sales of insignia, note cards, and prints of coats of arms. You will find ordering forms for these items at the end of this newsletter. The profits from these items are going toward our first scholarship. We will be presenting a $500 Lady Godiva Scholarship during our first year. You will find the Lady Godiva Scholarship Letter in this newsletter. If you know of someone who would qualify, please let them know about the scholarship.

Our next national meeting for the Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva will be on April 11, 2015, at the Army and Navy Club in Washington, DC. It will a tea and will be held in the Main Ballroom at 3:00 p.m. Please put it on your calendar so that you can make plans to be there. Our Honorary Member LTC Charles Robert Odom is our sponsor again this year, and we are thankful for his sponsorship.

Here is a closing word about Lady Godiva. Not only did she bring about a repeal of the onerous taxes and built churches with Leofric, but she became the mother and ancestor of almost every famous person in Europe, such as Queen Elizabeth II, the Czar of Russia, the King of France, the King of Spain and the King of Bulgaria, among numerous other kings and queens.

**B. Davine Roberts**

**Founding Lady General**
Alas, Old Coventry!

Godiva wouldn’t recognize even the Coventry of the late Middle Ages. Bigger changes were coming.

Leofric, the Lord of Mercia, and his wife Godgifu (Godiva) helped give the small village of Coventry a firm foundation, leading to its later development as a thriving city. It was not much more than a village when Godiva supposedly made her famous ride; the image below right, for example, shows late medieval streets that would have appeared several hundred years later. But she would no doubt have been pleased with her town’s progress through the centuries.

Coventry had been the site of an old Saxon nunnery for several centuries when, in the early 11th Century, the convent was destroyed by King Canute. Leofric and Godiva built a Benedictine monastery and church in 1043 on the old site and dedicated it to St. Mary. The couple made Coventry one of their major residences (they owned property in numerous locations), and gave St. Mary’s priory and church a rich endowment. When Leofric died, he was buried in St. Mary’s. Godiva’s resting place is not known, although it is likely she was interred alongside her husband when she died several years later.

In 1102, St. Mary’s was raised to cathedral status; the building was expanded extensively over the course of the next century. Meanwhile, Coventry’s trade in textiles, particularly wool, had blossomed, and the town also specialized in other industries such as glass-making. Coventry prospered.

Unfortunately, Godiva and Leofric’s church did not survive Henry VIII’s time. When King Henry took over Catholic Church property in the 16th Century, he gave the people of Coventry the option of buying back their cathedral. The people were unable to raise sufficient funds, and the building was demolished. Pieces of the ruins were used for other construction. It was the only English cathedral to be destroyed during the Reformation.

Coventry continued to enjoy commercial success, becoming a manufacturing center by the 20th Century. Unfortunately, its concentration of armament plants made it a target during World War II: The town was singled out for a massive bombing attack. On the night of November 14-15, 1940, German bombers nearly leveled the city center. Many of the old medieval buildings, including the (by then) Cathedral of St. Michael’s, were destroyed. The attack killed 568 people and destroyed most of the city’s factories. With the exception of London and Plymouth, Coventry suffered more damage than any other British city during the attacks.

During the years after the war, the city recovered and rebuilt, in modern style; the ruined St. Michael’s Cathedral was left as a park and a new cathedral was completed in the 1960s. Old and new mix (some would say “clash”) in the Coventry of today.

But Lady Godiva is not forgotten. The Godiva Procession, featuring a lightly-clothed young person on a horse, began sometime in the 1600s. Originally a boy played the role, but eventually women began to be cast. The tradition continued (regularly, not necessarily yearly) through the Victorian era and into the 20th Century, ceased during the 60s, but was revived in the late 1990s. The procession is now part of the yearly Godiva Festival.

While Godiva would probably be puzzled by this lively “tribute,” one hopes she would appreciate the townsfolk’s remembrance of a legend connected with Coventry’s early history.

**Lady Godiva, by Jules Joseph Lefebvre.**
At the inaugural meeting, spirits were high as members shared their experiences getting the Society started. Attendees also kept the focus on our ancestor. Scholarship Chairman Chrissy Herreid, pictured at left, gave a lively reading of “Lady Godiva,” an original poem by our Poet Laureate Dianne Boren. Members expressed gratitude to hardworking founders such as Lady General Roberts and Keeper of the Roll Maureen McGowan-Singer for putting in hundreds of hours researching gateway ancestors, getting the word out to new members and complying with U.S. legal requirements for a successful club, such as applying for charitable organization status. Members snacked on treats provided in table favors designed by Adornments Officer Madeline Alworth: little boxes featuring the Godiva Society insignia and containing (of course) Godiva chocolate.

Displayed for sale were note cards and prints featuring the Lady Godiva insignia and the coats of arms of Mercia and Thorold, which are the arms most closely associated with Lady Godiva. Proceeds from the sales of the coats of arms will go to the Society’s scholarship fund. The coats of arms were painted by Medieval Artist Patsy Bass. (Cards pictured below.)

Minstrel General Karen Hall, at right, wowed the crowd by singing a terrific a cappella rendition of “Lady Godiva,” the 1966 popular song by Peter and Gordon. Members swayed in their seats and sang along quietly, but Karen’s voice held everyone’s attention. Her performance captured the celebratory mood of all.

The Society’s Got Talent! Members keep their first meeting lively, with poetry readings, singing and more.
2014—2016 Officers & Chairmen, continued

Historiographer General: Anita Bradley Eastman
Grand Marshall General: Douglass Mather Mabee
Librarian General: Abaca Davine Dowling
 Guardian General: Gerald Matthew Moore
Medieval Heritage Artist Gen: Patsy Bass
Minstrel General: Karen Gertrude Kurth Hall
Poet Laureate: Mary Dianne Boren
Parliamentarian: Shelby Ward
Councillor: Karen Elizabeth McClendon
Councillor: John Hallberg Jones
Councillor: Patricia Wasilik
Councillor: Lorraine Gaston Ennis
Councillor: Colleen M. Kenyon
Councillor: Mollie Jean London
Councillor: Janet L. Downing
Councillor: Ona Marlene Wilkinson
Councillor: David Lawrence Grinnell
Councillor: Laura Neele Clark Howell
Councillor: Virginia Hurles Rouse
Councillor: Charlene, Dr. Herreid
Councillor: Sarah “Sally” Inez Wood Hlavay
Chatelaine Chairman: Patricia Ellen Gallagher
Auditor Chairman: Jean Dixon Mann
Godiva Gazette Editor: Leslie Suzanne Bass
Godiva Gazette Assistant Editor: Melissa Anne Fischer
Chamberlain Chairman: Julie Ann Roberts Dowling
Adornment Chairman: Madeline Elaine Alworth
Page Chairman: Bonnie Elaine Sopher
Scholarship Chairman: Christine Joyce Herreid
Genealogy Chairman: Oma Mae Hill Gaines
Royal Alchemist: (unfilled)

Full house at founding meeting!
Gateway Ancestors: Listed are the persons that, as of 18 October 2014, we have proven lineage to Lady Godiva, along with their American colony of residence.

As new information comes to light every day, The Society retains the right to accept or turn down a line based on the most current genealogical research. This is a work in progress and new lineages will be added on going:

*Future inquiries for these ancestors should be directed to the Genealogist General/Tracy A. Crocker (genealogist@tracycrocker.com)

- Abell, Robert, Massachusetts
- Abney, Dannett, Virginia
- Alsop, Elizabeth, Connecticut
- Barham, Anne, Virginia
- Barham, Charles, Virginia
- Batte, Henry, Virginia
- Batte, Thomas, Virginia
- Baynes, Elinor “Ellen”, Pennsylvania
- Blakiston, George, Maryland
- Blount, James (Capt.), North Carolina
- Bolles, Joseph, Maine
- Booth, Robert, Virginia
- Boteler (Butler), Elizabeth, Virginia
- Bradbury, Thomas, Massachusetts
- Bressey, Thomas, Connecticut
- Browne, Nathaniel, Connecticut
- Bulkley, Peter, Massachusetts
- Bull, Stephen, Virginia
- Carleton, Edward, Massachusetts
- Chetwode, Grace, Connecticut
- Claypool, James, Pennsylvania
- Clopton, William, Virginia
- Crymes, William, Virginia
- Deighton, Frances, Massachusetts
- Derehaugh, Anne, Massachusetts
- Dudley, Thomas, Massachusetts
- Elkington, George, New Jersey
- Eltonhead, Alice, Virginia
- Farrar, William I, Virginia
- Filmer, Henry, Virginia
- Folliott, Edward, Virginia
- Foulke, Edward, Pennsylvania
- Fowke, Gerard I, Virginia
- Goddard, William, Massachusetts
- Gascoigne, Thomas, Virginia
- Gye, Mary, Massachusetts
- Harris, Agnes Spencer Edwards, Connecticut
- Harris, John, Virginia
- Hawes, Edmond, Massachusetts
- Humphrey, Rebecca, Pennsylvania
- Hutchinson, Anne Marbury, Massachusetts
- Isaac, Joseph, Maryland
- Isham, Henry, Virginia
- James, Thomas, Jr., New York
- Johns(t)on, Edward, Virginia
- Jones, Rice, Virginia
- Launce, Mary, Massachusetts
- Ligon, Thomas, Virginia
- Lyman, Richard, Massachusetts
- Lynde, Simon, Massachusetts
- Magruder, Alexander I, Maryland
- Mallory, Roger, Virginia
- Manwaring, Oliver, Connecticut
- Marbury-Hutchinson, Ann, RI and NY
- Newberry, Thomas, Massachusetts
- Newton, John, Virginia
- Owen, Joshua, New Jersey
- Owsley, Thomas, Virginia
- Parker, Richard, Sr., Virginia
- Peyton, Robert, Virginia
- Prescott, John, Massachusetts
- Rainsford, Edward, Massachusetts
- Randolph, William, Virginia
- Savage, Anthony, Virginia
- Skipwith, Diane, Lady, Virginia
- Smith, Lawrence, Virginia
- Southworth, Constant, Massachusetts
- Spencer, William, Connecticut
- Stockman, John, Massachusetts
- Trowbridge, Thomas, Connecticut
- Vaitche (Veitch), James, Maryland
- Waller, John, Virginia
- Warren, Thomas, Virginia
- Washbourne, William, New York
- Welby, Olive, Massachusetts
- West, John, Virginia
- Worden, Peter, Massachusetts
- Wyatt, William Haute, Virginia
- Yale, Thomas, Connecticut

The Godiva Gazette

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE SOCIETY OF
DESCENDANTS OF LADY GODIVA.
VOL. 1, ISSUE 2
SUMMER, 2014

Co-Editors:
Suzanne Bass, Melissa Fischer
Minutes of the April 13, 2013 Meeting

Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva

Founding Meeting -- 13 April 2014

The Army and Navy Club, Washington, D. C.

Founding Lady General Davine Roberts called the meeting to order at 4:47 PM and welcomed members and guests to the Founding Meeting of the Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva.

The Prelate General Beth Wilson gave the invocation.

The Objective of the Society was given by Lady-in-Waiting Ann Williams.

Second Lady-in-Waiting Sharon Stine read the Motto of the Society.

Lord Marshall George Hill stated the colors of the Society.

Founding Lady General Roberts presented the Officers, Councillors, and Chairmen in attendance. Recognition was given to Karen McClendon for preparing the membership application; Librarian General Abaca Davine Dowling for her inspiration in the Society; Ladies-in-Waiting Ann Williams and Sharon Stine for their assistance in the formation of the Society; and Registrar General Maureen McGowan-Singer for agreeing to serve as Registrar General. Gratitude to LTC Retired Charles Robert Odom for the courtesy of the meeting room; Sharon Stine and Carla Odom for allowing the Organizing Meeting to follow the Order of the Justiciars’ meeting; Oma Gaines for cross referencing names from member applications; David Grinnell for completing six (6) supplemental applications; Patsy Bass for painting two Coats of Arms and Madeline Alworth for the gold boxes of Godiva Chocolates and other items she created, i.e., notes, to be used for the Godiva Scholarship Fund. Ninety-five (95) insignia articles have been sold and the money will be placed in the Scholarship Fund. A Facebook page has been prepared and will be utilized to keep members informed.

Founding Lady General Roberts gave the Treasurer’s Report, in the absence of Chancellor of the Exchequer Sonya Eason: a checking account was opened at VyStar Credit Union in Jacksonville, FL, with no cost for the account. Two (2) 12 month $10,000.00 ea. Certificates of Deposit (CDs) have been opened drawing interest of .61%. As of March 31, 2014, the balance of both the checking and savings accounts is $18,858.07 plus the $20,000.00 in CDs totaling $38,858.07.

Justiciar Annelies Mouring applied for incorporation, which was approved on January 28, 2014, and is working on the 501(c) (3) non-profit status.

Registrar General Maureen McGowan-Singer reported the membership to be 158 (as of 06 April 2014) with three pending applications. There are 155 Founding Members and 3 Charter Members. Sixteen supplemental applications have been approved; six (6) are held by David Grinnell. There are now 86 Gateway Ancestors. (Report [list?] attached)

Corresponding Secretary General Ann Waggaman announced that she will be preparing a roster of members.

Minstrel General Karen Hall sang “Lady Godiva” originally performed by Peter and Gordon in 1966.

Scholarship Chairman Chrissy Herreid presented an original poem on Lady Godiva written by Poet Laureate Dianne Boren.

Medieval Heritage Artist General Patsy Bass displayed two (2) Coats of Arms prints, i.e., Mercia and Thorouled, which she originally painted. Prints of the COAs were available for $20.00 and 12 notecards for $25.00.

A newsletter: The first Lady Godiva Gazette has been released. Bylaws will soon be distributed as will a membership directory. The annual meeting will be held in April 2015 in Washington, D. C.
MEMORANDUM TO THOSE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR A SOCIETY OF DESCENDANTS OF LADY GODIVA SCHOLARSHIP

The Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva is sponsoring a $500.00 scholarship to a student who is attending an accredited four-year college or university or an accredited community college. The student must be enrolled in college full time and have a 3.0 GPA or above. The student must submit an acceptance letter from their college of choice if they will be a freshman in September, an official transcript of grades of previous year from school attended, two letters of references, a social security number, and a letter telling of his/her aims and ambitions.

The Scholarship Chairman and Committee Members will furnish applications upon request. The application must be completed fully and returned with all of the requirements by August 25th to the address below. The criteria for awarding the scholarship are need, academic merit, extracurricular participation and community service. The winner of the scholarship will be announced by September 1, 2014. The $500.00 scholarship will be sent directly to the winning student’s college.

If you know someone who is eligible for the Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva, please have them contact the Scholarship Committee Members for an application:

B. Davine Moore Roberts
Founding Lady General
Retired High School Teacher
DavineR@aol.com
904-766-6182
cell 904-910-8614

Christine “Chrissy” Herreid
Scholarship Committee Chairman
College Student
chrissyherreidj@aol.com
cell 813-468-5555

Charlene Herreid, Ph.D.
Councillor
Founding Member SDLG
University Administrator
Orangetree83@aol.com
cell 813-468-5556
Dear Members of the Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva,

We are offering these lovely note cards for sale to help promote our Lady Godiva Scholarship. They were designed by our Founding Member Madeline Alworth, Adornment Chairman, and she will be handling the orders. The note cards have the Lady Godiva Insignia just as pictured above with a metallic silver border at the bottom. They are 5" X 3 ½", and each card comes with a white envelope. There are also other items for sale such as Lady Godiva Insignia stickers and address labels. They can be ordered as follows:

**NOTE CARDS**

Lady Godiva Note Cards with Insignia $25.00 per dozen

**STICKERS**

1 inch Insignnia Circle Stickers (63 per sheet) $2.50 per sheet
1 ½ inch Square Insignia (24 per sheet) $3.00 per sheet
2 inch White Gloss Stickers (12 on a sheet) $3.00 per sheet

**ADDRESS LABELS**

1 inch X 2 5/8 inches Lady Godiva Insignia Address Labels (30 per sheet) $3.00 per sheet

Postage on any or all of the above items plus $2.00 postage

Circle the items you want to purchase, and make your check payable to **Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva**

Please send your order to

Madeline Alworth, Adornment Chairman SDLG
505 Cumberland Rd.
Tyler, TX 75703-9325

Email: madeline@alworth.com Phone: (903) 581-7963
Dear Members of the Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva,

We are offering these lovely Coats of Arms items as a fund raiser for our Lady Godiva Scholarship. They were designed and painted by our Founding Member Patsy Bass, Medieval Heritage Artist General, and she will be handling the orders. One is for the Kingdom of Mercia (now Coventry, England) where Godiva was born and lived with her husband Leofric, and the other is Thorold, for Lady Godiva and father’s family name. They are printed on card stock from Patsy’s original paintings and hand tinted by her. The note cards are the same as pictured above. They are 3 ½”, X 5” with a creased frame, and each card comes with a matching white envelope. The Coats of Arms ready for framing and the note cards can be ordered as follows:

**NOTE CARDS**

Lady Godiva Note Cards with Mercia and/or Thorold $25.00 per dozen

**COATS OF ARMS SUITABLE FOR FRAMING**

Coats of Arms for Mercia and/or Thorold 8½X11 $20.00 each

*(If you wish to order another size, please contact Patsy.)*

**Postage on any or all of the above items** plus $2.00 postage

Circle the items you want to purchase, and make your check payable to **Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva**

Total $____________

Please send your order to

Patsy Bass
Medieval Heritage Artist General SDLG
215 W. Second Street
Tyler, TX 75701-3038

Email: patsyannbass@gmail.com   Phone: (903) 593-9132
The Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva is striving for our 501c3 non-profit status. In keeping with these guidelines, all profits from insignia/pin sales will go toward our Lady Godiva Scholarship Fund. Thank you for helping to support this worthy cause.

The Lady Godiva Large Insignia and the Lady Godiva Miniature Insignia are very versatile as they may be worn any time or any place. The Large Insignia is worn by male and female officers with the 2 1/2" satin neck ribbon at official meetings. The Large Insignia with the satin neck ribbon may also be worn by council members, founding members and charter members at official meetings. The neck ribbon may be removed for wearing at other times as a necklace on a chain or as a lapel pin. The Miniature Insignia may be worn as a lapel pin, pendant, or attached to a branch or a charm bracelet.

 Lady Godiva Large Insignia is 2” double plated die struck embossed soft enamel lapel pin/pendant with gold and silver plating with clear poly coating, safety pin back attachment, custom bail with approximately 1/4” opening centered above the safety pin. The royal purple color of the insignia is Pantone 254C – standard printer’s color. The above picture is lighter than the actual insignia and ribbon. A 2 1/4” wide by 30” long satin neck ribbon is available for officers, council members, founding members and charter members.

 Lady Godiva Miniature Insignia is similar to the large insignia but is more round in shape and sized 3/4”. It is a 3D full relief die struck embossed soft enamel lapel pin/pendant/charm with silver plating and clear poly coating, safety pin back attachment, and custom bail above the safety pin with extra ring for hanging if needed. Orders will be shipped in a bubble wrapped envelope. Please calculate the cost plus $8 shipping charge for your total order.

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<tr>
<td>Large Insignia</td>
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<td>Miniature Insignia</td>
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</tbody>
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**TOTAL $8.00**

Please make checks payable to the **Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva**.

Please include the word **Insignia** on the memo line of your check.

Forward orders to:

B. Davine Moore Roberts  
Founding Lady General SDLG  
12567 Percy Lane  
Jacksonville, FL  32218-2337

Any questions or concerns, please email DavineR@aol.com or call 904-766-6182.