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Virginia Historical Society Announces Three New Board Members
Organization Values Trustees’ Experience, Knowledge, and Geographic Diversity

Richmond, VA—The Virginia Historical Society (VHS) welcomes new members of the board of trustees for 2014: Susan S. Goode of Norfolk; Thomas G. Snead, Jr., of Richmond; and J. Harvie Wilkinson III, of Charlottesville. A private nonprofit organization, the VHS is a history museum and research library committed to connecting people to America’s past through the unparalleled story of Virginia. The VHS board is made up of twenty-two trustees and four honorary vice chairmen.

“The nominating committee was delighted that three such fine candidates stood ready to join our board of trustees in 2014,” said J. Stewart Bryan III, VHS honorary vice chairman and chairman of the nominating committee. “They bring a wealth of experience and knowledge and geographical diversity that will be helpful to our deliberations.”

In addition, E. Claiborne Robins, Jr., of Richmond, president and CEO of E. C. Robins International, Inc., will serve as chairman of the board. John R. Nelson, of Richmond, executive vice president and chief technology officer of Altria Group, Inc. will serve as vice chairman.

Educator and Duke University graduate Susan S. Goode has been actively involved in community affairs in Roanoke and Norfolk for more than forty years. For four years she was the chairman of the Roanoke City Planning Commission and has held various positions in the League of Women Voters. She devotes time and support locally, across Virginia, and even nationally as a member of the Norfolk Public Arts Commission, the Norfolk Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and the collection committee of the Chrysler Museum of Art. She is on the boards of Americans for the Arts, Virginia Wesleyan College, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, and is secretary for the board of the Virginia Symphony Orchestra. She received an Honorary Doctorate from Roanoke College in 2008. A unique tribute to Roanoke’s strong rail history, the David R. and Susan S. Goode Railwalk was completed and dedicated in 2007. The Railwalk is named for Susan and her husband, David R. Goode, retired CEO of the Norfolk Southern Corporation. Together they received the Governor’s Arts Award in 2008.
Thomas G. Snead, Jr., retired in 2006 after working for more than twenty years for Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Virginia. He served as president and CEO of WellPoint’s Southeast Region and president of Anthem Southeast. He was the chairman and CEO of Trigon Healthcare. He is a native of Halifax County and a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). Residing in Richmond, he is active at VCU, serving on its board of trustees and as a founding member of the School of Business Foundation. Along with his wife, Vickie, he served as co-chair of The Campaign for VCU, Monroe Park Campus, and it is they for whom Snead Hall, the beautiful home of the VCU School of Business, is named.

J. Harvie Wilkinson III graduated from Yale University. He and his wife Lossie reside in Charlottesville, where he received his law degree from the University of Virginia in 1972. He began his law career in 1972 as a clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr. He was a professor at the University of Virginia Law School for ten years, and served on their board of visitors, as well as being the editor of the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot. In 1982 he became deputy assistant attorney general in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. He was appointed circuit judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in August 1984 and was the Fourth Circuit’s chief judge from 1996 to 2003. Wilkinson also served on the board of the Federal Judicial Center and in 2003 was appointed to the board of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation. He has received many awards, including the Thomas Jefferson Medal from the University of Virginia and the Thomas Jefferson Foundation, the Lawrenceville Medal given by the Lawrenceville School, Honorary J.D.s from the University of Richmond, the University of South Carolina, and an Honorary LL.D. from Christopher Newport University. He was also selected as a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is the author of several books, most recently Cosmic Constitutional Theory: Why Americans Are Losing Their Inalienable Right to Self-Governance (2012). Wilkinson joined the board of the VHS in October of 2013, filling out the remaining term of the late Clifton Alexander Woodrum III.

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The Virginia Historical Society (VHS)—a privately funded nonprofit organization—collects, preserves, and interprets the Commonwealth’s history, linking past with present to inspire future generations. Visitors may connect with the 8.5 million objects in the VHS collection through the research library, a variety of programs, and a recently redesigned website to learn more about the unparalleled story of Virginia. Exciting plans are underway to expand and improve VHS exhibitions in 2014 to offer visitors a better experience. The transformation of gallery spaces will create even more vibrant, accessible, and engaging gateways to America’s past. The VHS is located at 428 North Boulevard in Richmond’s Museum District. Admission is free. Hours are Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m.–5 p.m. Library hours are Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. For more information, call (804) 358-4901, visit www.vahistorical.org, or connect with the VHS on Facebook and Twitter.