



*Order of the House of Wessex The  
Anglo Saxon Chronicle*

Spring Issue, March 2026

“Worthy is the man who appreciates his heritage”



*President General, Lord, Honorable Colonel, & Dr. Mark E. Young, Sr.*

## ***STATE OF THE ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF WESSEX***

Reported by the President General

The Order of the House of Wessex has enjoyed a productive and successful year. Nearly all of our officers and committee chairmen deserve special commendation for their proactive, hands-on dedication to their respective responsibilities. Their commitment and teamwork have been instrumental in the progress we have achieved. I am also pleased to report that our membership increased during my term, a testament to the strength and vitality of our Order.

Our Treasurer, Constance Paradiso, deserves particular recognition for her outstanding efforts this year. She not only maintained our financial records with diligence and precision, but also took on the additional responsibility of managing the accounting for Medieval Night. Her ability to balance these duties while maintaining accuracy and transparency was truly remarkable.

This year, the Order of the House of Wessex set an exceptionally high standard with our Medieval Night celebration. It was an exciting, beautiful, festive, and memorable event that truly reflected the spirit and tradition of our Order. Such an extraordinary evening would not have been possible without the dedication, creativity, and tireless efforts of our outstanding team. Each person involved played a role in making the event a success, and I extend my sincere gratitude to all who contributed.

When I began my term, I set a clear goal for the Order of the House of Wessex: to strengthen and bolster our organization both financially and structurally, ensuring that it would be even stronger when the torch is passed to the next generation of leadership. I am proud to say that we have made meaningful progress toward that goal. We are leaving the Order in a solid financial position and with a capable, committed group of leaders ready to guide us forward. I am confident that the incoming officers in 2026 will lead with integrity and competence, and that the Order will remain in very capable hands.

As part of our commitment to responsible financial stewardship, we collectively demonstrated sound fiscal management by transferring \$35,000 into a seven-month Certificate of Deposit at First State Bank of Bayport, Minnesota, the same institution that currently holds our checking account. This CD carries an interest rate of 3.95%, allowing our funds to work for us while remaining secure.

Additionally, through the implementation of several cost-saving measures for Medieval Night, we were able to generate a modest profit of \$328.55, as reported by our Treasurer General. Importantly, we achieved this while keeping the early ticket purchase price at the same level as the previous year, ensuring that the event remained accessible to our members and guests.

From the beginning of my tenure, another central priority was the cleanup and modernization of our Bylaws and Standing Rules. Clear, well-structured governing documents are essential for the stability and effective administration of any organization. Our Bylaws Committee has worked diligently to produce a much clearer and more streamlined set of governing documents. Once approved, these revisions will greatly enhance the governance and long-term stability of our Order.

Many of you know me as a strong, confident, personable, and straightforward leader who values honesty and transparency. I believe deeply in loyalty, genuine friendships, and mutual respect. I

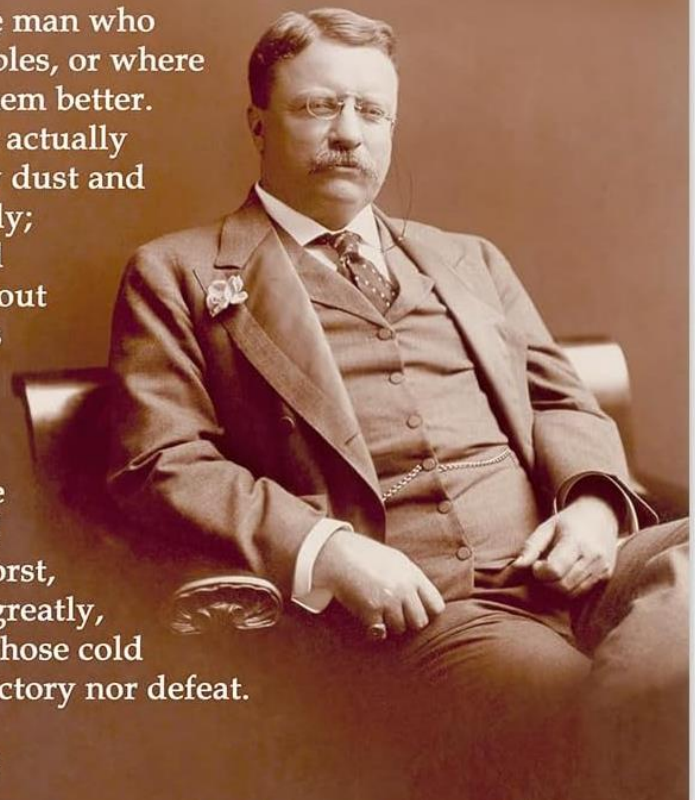
do not play politics. Leadership sometimes requires making difficult decisions—decisions that may not always be the most popular—but decisions that are necessary for the long-term good of the organization. I have always believed that a leader must have the courage to make the right decision, even when it is not the easiest one.

Throughout this journey, I have greatly valued the candid advice and collective wisdom of the strong team that surrounds me. Their insight, support, and dedication have been invaluable. Above all, respect remains my core value—both giving it and earning it.

It has been a true honor and a great pleasure to serve the Order of the House of Wessex. I thank each of you for your support, your trust, and your friendship during my time in this role.

## THE MAN IN THE ARENA

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.



*April 23, 1910 - Theodore Roosevelt*

# What Is the Story of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle?

Written by Alexander Roberts, MA Classics & Ancient History

Published: Mar 5, 2025

Source: <https://www.thecollector.com/what-is-story-anglo-saxon-chronicle/>

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle is a remarkable historical document and a precious example of Old English literature. The story behind it is equally fascinating.



The *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* is one of the most important artifacts of English history. As a text, it is a remarkable record of events that helps shine a light onto the so-called “Dark Ages.” However, the *Chronicle* is more than just a record. In many ways, it is more than a mere annal of history. The writing of the *Chronicle* sheds as much light onto Anglo-Saxon England as the text itself.

**So, What Is the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*?**



The ruins of Lindisfarne Abbey. Source: Wikimedia Commons

In the 890s CE, a group of scholars in the Kingdom of Wessex were commissioned to write a chronicle of Anglo-Saxon history. It began with a preface on the peoples of Britain and a brief series of events in Roman Britain and Christianity beginning with Caesar's invasion in 50 BCE. From the mid-fifth century onwards, the focus changes with the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons and the development of the disparate kingdoms that would become England. As the years progress, the narrative and entries become more detailed and more reliable as contemporary sources became available.

One of the *Chronicle's* most famous entries is from 793. "In this year, fierce, foreboding omens came over the land of Northumbria, and wretchedly terrified the people. There were excessive whirlwinds, lightning storms and fiery dragons were seen flying in the sky... shortly after in the same year, on January 8th, the ravaging of heathen men destroyed God's church at Lindisfarne through brutal robbery and slaughter." It is easy to imagine the entry's author, having witnessed more recent Viking raids into Wessex, drew from his own experiences for this entry. The Vikings had, for better or worse, greatly influenced the early *Chronicle*.

The original production in Wessex became known as the "Common Stock" of the *Chronicle*. The *Common Stock* was copied and distributed to Monasteries and houses of learning across England. It wasn't the first chronicle written in England, but it was the first commissioned by a secular figure for distribution across the country. The original commissioner was likely a Wessexian noble or a member of Alfred the Great's court. The extent to which Alfred himself was involved is uncertain. However,

given his academic interests and the logistical scale involved, he likely at least knew of its existence and approved of its wider distribution.

## **Propaganda or Scholarship?**

It is easy to assume that the original production of the *Chronicle* was a propaganda piece intended to promote Alfred's public image and that of Wessex. However, for a propaganda piece, it is surprisingly light on details about the important highlights of Alfred's reign. For example, the entry for Alfred's victory over the Great Heathen Army at the Battle of Edington is notoriously sparse. While other events are more detailed, Alfred is not singled out as being the sole savior of the Anglo-Saxons.

That said, the *Common Stock* was undoubtedly pro-Wessex. This can be explained by the *Common Stock*'s origination in Wessex but the language in some of the entries provides a clear indication that Wessex, if not Alfred, had been the most successful Anglo-Saxon Kingdom in defending against the Vikings. For example, the entry for 851 records the battle of Aclea, where Alfred's father Æthelwulf attacked a Viking army, that the *Chronicle* notes had earlier routed the Mercian king Beorhtwulf. According to the entry, Æthelwulf "made the greatest slaughter of the heathen army that we have ever heard reported to this present day."

Rather than the propaganda of Alfred, it might be better to see the *Chronicle* as an attempt at fostering unity and legitimacy between the Anglo-Saxons. The *Chronicle* was published soon after Alfred was proclaimed King of all Anglo-Saxons rather than just King of Wessex. Alfred now had effective overlordship of the remaining Anglo-Saxons arrayed against the Vikings and the Danelaw but his rule over previously independent lands would not have been certain.

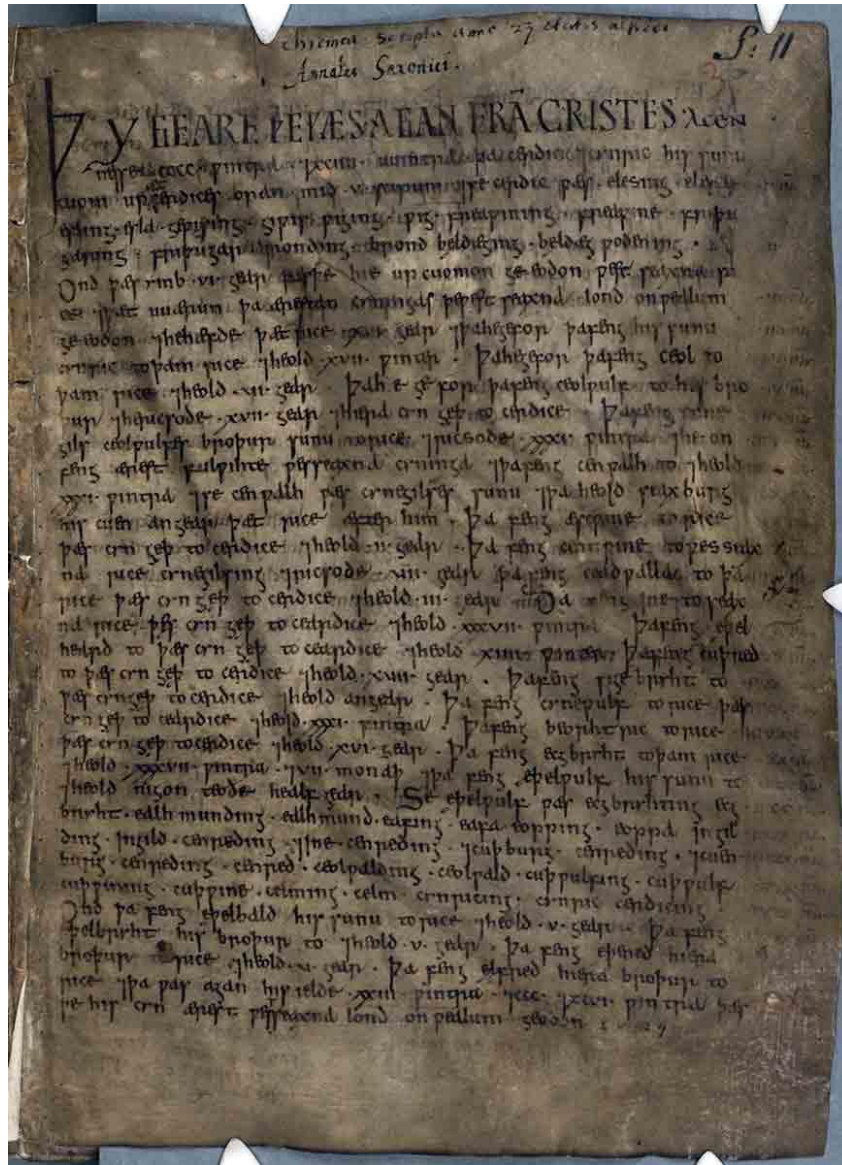
A text celebrating Anglo-Saxon history and Wessex's own contribution to it, while not overtly praising Alfred, would have been a reasonable political move. After Alfred and the initial production, the *Chronicle* was then copied and distributed. This copying and distribution became the next twist in the *Chronicle*'s tale.

## **The *Chronicle* Copies and New Perspectives**

What we now call the *Chronicle* is in fact a collection of nine different copies, six full and three fragmentary, that have survived to the present day. The copies derive from the Common Stock but through additional sources, authors, and new perspectives all display unique details from the other existing copies.

Thanks to these different versions, historians have been able to trace the development of the *Chronicle* over time. The *Common Stock* seems to have continued until around

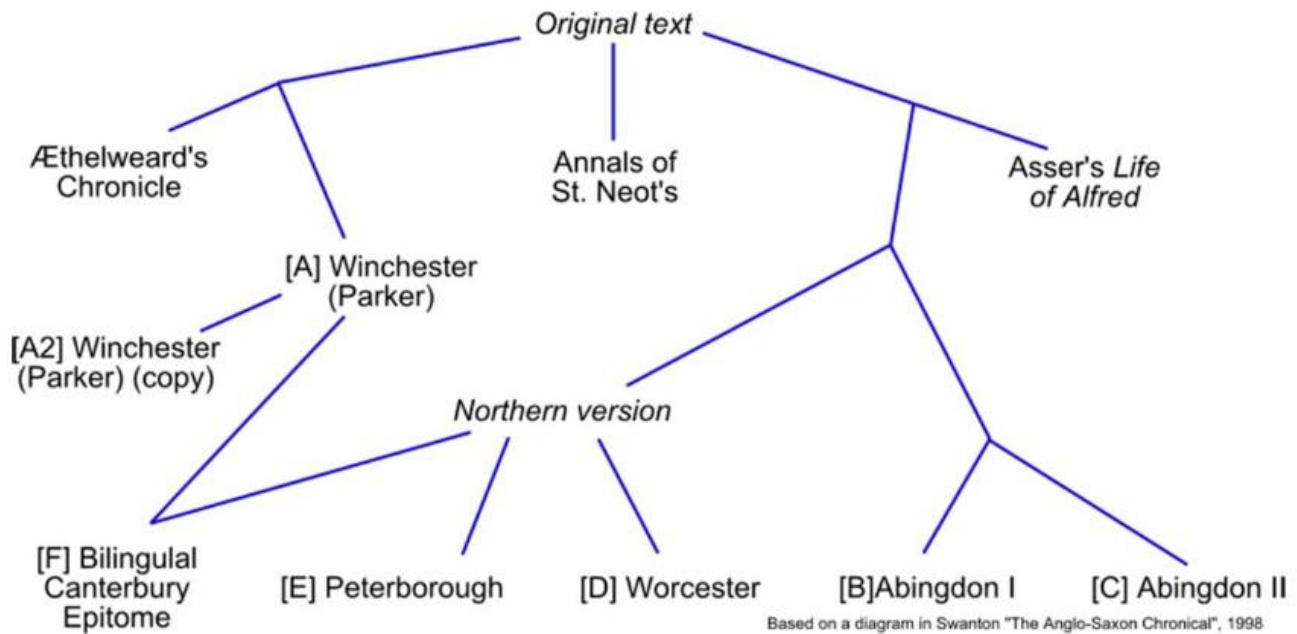
892 CE. Thereafter, scholars across England incorporated new local sources and even their own local chronicles to update the *Chronicle* and revise previous entries. As the years progressed, more versions with different inclusions were published and different scholars continued to update their versions of the *Chronicle* to create a fascinating web of historiography and sources over time.



The six full copies, named for their original location and ordered by age, are as follows: [A] the Winchester Chronicle, continued to 977 CE; [B] the *Abingdon Chronicle I* and [C] *Abingdon Chronicle II*, continued to 977 and 1066 CE respectively; [D] The *Worcester Chronicle* continued to 1079; [E] the *Peterborough Chronicle*, continued to 1153 and [F] the *Bilingual Canterbury Epitome*, continued to 1058. The three fragments are: [G] the *Copy of the Winchester Chronicle*, [H] the *Cottonian Fragment*, and [I] the *Easter Table Chronicle*. Alongside the *Chronicle*, are three independent

works that used the same sources as the *Common Stock*. The different copies are referred to as ASC [for *Anglo Saxon Chronicle*] then whichever letter is assigned to them.

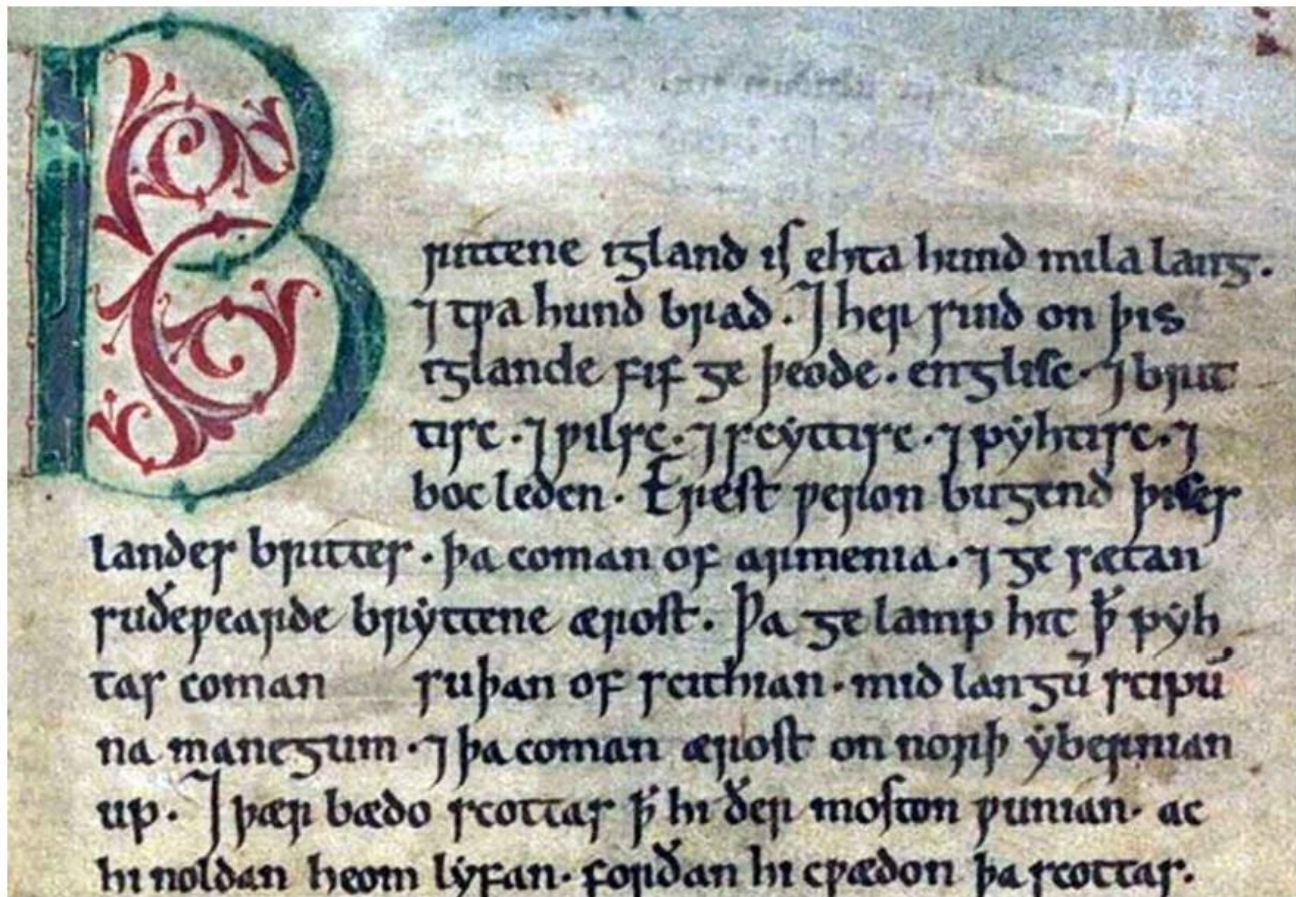
## The Copies and Their Continuation



A schematic of the different copies of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. Source: Wikimedia Commons

The different copies of the *Chronicle* create a fascinating tapestry of historiography, different sources, and local perspectives over time. ASC A, the *Winchester Chronicle*, is only a few copies removed from the *Common Stock*. It was produced in Alfred’s capital of Winchester and continued until 977 CE keeping to a Wessexian perspective. In the 12th century, it was updated with mostly church-related entries from other chronicles rather than a genuine continuation of the original. As the *Chronicle* was dispersed, however, more regional versions began to appear with different takes.

ASC B and C, *Abingdon I* and *Abingdon II*, were both written in what was the Kingdom of Mercia. Both include revisions and inclusions to the original *Chronicle* entries from local Mercian sources. They also included the so-called “Mercian Register” a series of entries from 901-924 CE not found in the *Common Stock* or ASC A. It largely focuses on Æthelflæd, Alfred’s daughter and the last true independent ruler of Mercia after her husband Æthelred died in 911 CE. The register celebrates her life and achievements and those of her daughter Ælfwynn who succeeded her mother briefly in 918 CE before being deposed by her uncle, the King of Wessex.

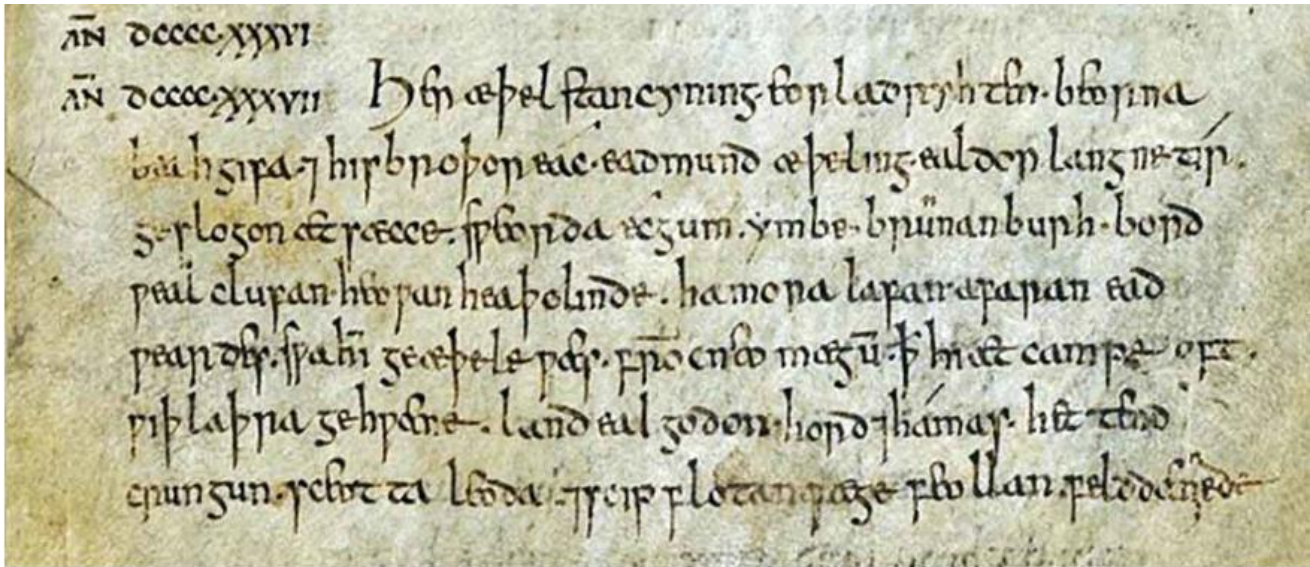


The introduction of ASC E, the Peterborough Copy of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, c. 1150. Source: Bodleian Library

ASC D, the *Worcester Copy*, also contains the Mercian Register and other Mercian sources. However, it also drew from a now-lost copy known as the *Northern Copy* for its addition of entries relevant to the North of England. By at least the 11th century, the *Northern Copy* was circulating further south as both ASC E and F, the *Peterborough Copy* and *Canterbury Epitome*, use details from it. However, both are missing the Mercian Register. Clearly, there was a significant movement and variation in copies of the *Chronicle* across England.

ASC E also has its own charmingly unique perspective. Written by two chroniclers in Peterborough Abbey to replace a destroyed original copy, it includes the history of Peterborough dating back to the Abbey's founding in 656 CE. An admirable attempt to raise the prominence of their hometown and a wonderful local source of history!

## The Development of the Later *Chronicle*



The entry for 937 CE in ASC A, containing the poem of the Battle of Brunanburh, 10th century. Source: British Library

As the years passed and the new copies continued, the *Chronicle* evolved from a singular historical record to a network of historical perspectives and local contemporary commentaries. This also had an impact on its tone and literary style over the years.

The first way this is seen is in the five poems of the *Chronicle*. All were written from the 10th-11th centuries and are interesting examples of Old English Poetry. The most famous is The Battle of Brunanburh which takes up most of the entry for 937 CE, describing a great victory of King Æthelstan, grandson of Alfred. It is lurid yet well-detailed, describing how “the field was slick with men’s blood from when the burning sun in morning time...sank to its setting.” It is an epic akin to *Beowulf*, yet composed by Christian scholars for a historical chronicle. A sign perhaps, of the continued warrior culture of the Anglo-Saxons but also of the more narratively indulgent later *Chronicle*.

Another development is in the more superlative language used by later chroniclers. For example, Edgar, King of England from 959-975 CE is enthusiastically praised in all the chronicle versions. Even his death was the basis for another poem in *ASC A* and *B*, while other versions also devoted their 975 entries to his praises. By comparison, Alfred the Great’s death received no such fanfare. This praise likely stems from Edgar’s support of the monastic orders of Britain, the same orders in charge of the *Chronicle*. Yet it is also due to the individual chroniclers adding their own perspectives and personal narrative styles. The eulogy poem in the two chronicles that finished just after his death could have been the result of a final chronicler wishing praise on their former patron.



Frontispiece of the Life of St Cuthbert, showing King Æthelstan presenting a copy of the book to the saint himself, by Bede, c. 930. Source: Wikimedia Commons

This literary style continued through with the later *Chronicle* copies. *ASC D* and *E* write that “Among the English, no worse deed was ever done” than the murder of Edgar’s son, Edward the Martyr in 979 CE. This is another example of the chroniclers indulging in hyperbole. However, it could also be the bitter perspective of later chroniclers identifying this murder as the cause of later calamities during the reign of his brother, Æthelred the Unready, and onward.



The Battle of Hastings depicted on the Bayeux Tapestry, 1070s. Source: Wikimedia Commons

Anglo-Saxon England came to a sudden end with the Norman Conquest of 1066, yet this is not true of the *Chronicle*. Only two versions (*ASC*, *D*, and *E*) continue past 1066 with any serious commentary and insight on the Norman Conquest and beyond. However, both versions provide a fascinating conclusion to the *Chronicle*'s story.

*ASC D*, written only 13 years after the conquest, includes in its entry for 1066 the battle of Hastings and William's ascension to the throne. "Thereafter" it continues, "Things were very bad." The *Chronicle* relates the looting and pillaging of monasteries and settlements by the Normans and further destruction before ending with the line: "May the end be swift if God wills it!" It is hard to imagine a more devastating report on the year 1066 or a way of ending this copy of the *Chronicle*. The context of *ASC D* coming

from the *Northern Copy* adds further emphasis to these entries, as the North was hit particularly hard by the Normans.



Silver penny depicting William I minted in Ipswich. Source: The British Museum

This was a very poignant end to *ASC D* but it was not the end of the *Chronicle* itself. *ASC E* was compiled in the 12th century and many of its entries on the years after 1066 come from now lost copies that were continued post-conquest. So the Normans did not wholly destroy the *Chronicle* and it continued to hold prestige.

The entry for 1087 comments on William's death with some surprising respect. Though a hard ruler, the entry notes that "A man of any account might fare over the kingdom with his bosom full of gold and not be molested." *ASC E* continued well into the 12th century, providing a unique English, rather than Norman, perspective on the period, including the infamous reign of King Stephen. It also provides a wonderful insight into the development of English itself, as the language of the *Chronicle* shifted gradually from Old to Middle English.

Eventually, however, this final copy of the *Chronicle* was discontinued. It was no longer deemed necessary to continue the story of the Anglo-Saxons in their language. Yet, copies of the *Chronicle* were preserved in monasteries across the country, surviving hundreds of years until today.

## ***Invitation to Special Called Zoom Meeting***

Mar. 14, 2026 – issued an invite to OHOW members to attend a "Special" zoom meeting on Mar. 26, 2026 18:00 Central Time (US and Canada) to conduct all business except the voting on the new Bylaws.

Dr Mark E Young Sr is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75613667051?pwd=mIeNEOCah0Sn54uZeQHtfrwDm6uhRF.1>

Meeting ID: 756 1366 7051

Passcode: 8qNnP2

### **2026 Order of the House of Wessex Special Zoom Meeting Agenda**

Call to Order

Invocation

Quorum

Approval of Minutes.

Registrar – accepted as submitted

Chaplain Report – accepted as submitted

Treasurer Report - accepted as submitted, Motion to accept Audit Report by Michael Swisher

Old Business - None

New Business

Election of Officers – Vote on Nominating Committee's List

Benediction

Adjournment

## ***Invitation to Annual Meeting***

Monday April 13, 2026 5:40 EST

Washington Room

(Arnold Room if Godiva is not done)

Army & Navy Club

901 17<sup>th</sup> St. NW

Washington, DC 20006

## **2026 Order of the House of Wessex Annual Meeting Agenda**

Call to Order

Invocation

Quorum

Old Business

Vote on Bylaws Committee's Recommendation as presented

Closing Remarks From the President General

Installation of New Officers

New President General

Benediction

Adjournment

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## ***2024-2026 Order of the House of Wessex Officers***

PG: Col. & Dr. Mark E. Young, Sr. - [MarkEYoungSr@aol.com](mailto:MarkEYoungSr@aol.com)

1st VPG, Robin Towns - [townsrobin1@gmail.com](mailto:townsrobin1@gmail.com)

2nd VPG, Julie Lynn Palmer Hesler - [julie.hesler@icloud.com](mailto:julie.hesler@icloud.com)

Chaplain, Paul Walden - [paulwalden@live.com](mailto:paulwalden@live.com)

Treasurer, Constance Paradiso - [paradiso@ntelos.net](mailto:paradiso@ntelos.net)

Secretary, Carlton Murray Mansfield - [cmansfield@mansfieldlawfirm.com](mailto:cmansfield@mansfieldlawfirm.com)

Registrar, James Partin – [jimpartin1@gmail.com](mailto:jimpartin1@gmail.com)

Chancellor, Deborah Hicks - [eufaulalawyer@gmail.com](mailto:eufaulalawyer@gmail.com)

Historian, Virginia Rouse - [gintam7@aol.com](mailto:gintam7@aol.com)

Councilor, Suzanna Rawlins - [leaveyourlegacy@att.net](mailto:leaveyourlegacy@att.net)

Parliamentarian, Renee Willingham Hamilton - [diggingupancestry@yahoo.com](mailto:diggingupancestry@yahoo.com)



# ***Annual Meeting Reports***

**Order of the House of Wessex  
President General  
Honorable Colonel & Dr. Mark E. Young, Sr.  
March 14, 2026**

Jul. 14, 2025 - 2025 - President General, Honorable Col. Mark E. Young, Sr., asked Finance Committee Chair, Robin Towns, "Where do we stand on transferring our funds to an interest bearing account?"

Aug. 5, 2025 - President General, Honorable Col. Mark E. Young, Sr., asked Finance Committee Chair, Robin Towns, "When are we on getting the bulk of our funds into an interest bearing account? As a fiduciary, time is of the essence. I need an official proposal from your committee, so the Executive Board can vote on it and we can get this done."

Dec. 1, 2025 – No articles for consideration to be published as our digital "Anglo Saxon Chronicle" Winter 2025 edition were received.

Feb. 15, 2026 - President General, Honorable Col. Mark E. Young, Sr., e-mailed Paul Walden, "I'd like for you to take over as the Chair for the Finance Committee! May I suggest adding Julie and Carlton. I had tasked Robin with, ".... getting the bulk of our funds into an interest bearing account." As a fiduciary, time is of the essence. I need an official proposal from your committee, so the Executive Board can vote on it and we can get this done. All three of you are probably aware that the three of you will be taking over the top three leadership positions. I'd like to get this accomplished ASAP. Your committee is tasked with determining the proper amount to put into an interest bearing account AND what sort of account that is.

Feb. 17, 2026 – Paul Walden, Finance Committee Chair, The Finance Committee, consisting of myself, Carlton Mansfield, and Julie Hesler, communicated via email recently and have made the recommendation that the Order of the House of Wessex transfer \$35,000 to a Certificate of Deposit with First State Bank of Bayport, MN (the bank that currently has our checking account). First State Bank offers a very competitive CD rate of 3.95% for a 7 month CD. That would result in \$799.94 in interest earnings. 3.95 is also a very good rate compared to other banks and since we already have an account with them, it would be easy to open this CD.

We should try to act on this quickly as these interest rates have been dropping lately and so we should try to lock in this rate when we can.

President General, Honorable Col. Mark E. Young, Sr., reported the Finance Committee's recommendation was seconded by Paul, **and** called for an Executive Board special electronic vote, which passed. Constance & Paul, were instructed to please proceed to transfer \$35,000 to a Certificate of Deposit with First State Bank of Bayport, MN.

Feb. 19, 2026 - Thanks to Constance's quick action and the Board's quick responses, CD account was Opened.

Mar. 14, 2026 - President General, Honorable Col. Mark E. Young, Sr., issued the "Anglo Saxon Chronicle" Spring 2026 edition.

Honorable Colonel & Dr. Mark E. Young, Sr.  
President General  
Order of the House of Wessex  
MarkEYoungSr@aol.com

Order of the House of Wessex  
First Vice President General  
Mary Robin Redfearn Towns

“No Report”

Mary Robin Redfearn Towns  
First Vice President General  
Order of the House of Wessex  
townsrobin1@gmail.com

Order of the House of Wessex  
Second Vice President General  
Julie Lynn Palmer Hesler

February 19, 2026

The 2nd Vice President General is responsible for the arrangements of the Annual Gathering.

This officer worked with Renee Hamilton to set up the tables for the 2025 Annual Gathering and with Treasurer Constance Paradiso to provide meal selection cards at the registration table.

This officer would like to express gratitude to Descendants of Lady Godiva Lord General Tim Mabee for assistance in securing the Arnold Room for a brief in person meeting in order to meet the requirements of our bylaws for conducting the business of the Order.

It is an honor to serve the Order during the Young Administration.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Palmer Hesler  
2nd Vice President  
Order of the House of Wessex

**Order of the House of Wessex**  
**Chaplain General & Finance Committee Chair Report**  
**Paul Walden**  
January 17, 2026

**Insignia Chair**

“No Report” (Previous Report: CityPride, the jeweler who handles our insignia, now receives orders directly from members and contacts me to verify their membership status.)

I am aware of the passing of one member in 2025: Carla Lucille Whitehurst Odom, Member #3 and Honorary President General, on 3 June. Carla was very active in the creation of this Order in 2017 and its subsequent growth. Her obituary appears below. I have sent condolence cards to the families of deceased members.

**Carla Lucille Whitehurst Odom Obituary**

**August 4, 1942 — June 3, 2025**  
**Durham**

Carla Lucille Whitehurst Odom entered a larger life on June 3, 2025. She was born August 4, 1942, daughter to Paul Donald and Lucille Martin Whitehurst of Durham, NC, and granddaughter of Charles Henry and Ada Sparrow Whitehurst, and Carlos Ciblon and Myrtle Byrd Martin. She was predeceased by her husband, LTC Charles Robert Odom USA (Ret.). Surviving are her daughters, Charlotte Martin Odom Lytle Perrin (David Courtney, Jr.) and Catherine Lynne Odom Quick (Kenneth Douglas); grandsons Robert Alexander Post Lytle (Callee Henningfeld), Christian Douglas Quick (Emma Hoffman), and Andrew Kenneth Lokie Quick (fiancée Ruby Temelkoff); “sister cousin” Brenda Upchurch Martin; and cousins.

The deceased had been an artist, owner of Odomart, and consultant. Mrs. Odom was educated at Twadell School, Durham City Schools, and was graduated from Campbell College. As the wife of a Career Army Officer she followed where duty called. For 40 years she was either Executrix, Trustee and/or General Business Partner for extended family.

Mrs. Odom requested this paragraph be included in her obituary for the encouragement of other like-minded individuals. During a period in the Cold War, she mailed parts of the Bible in the vernacular to designated individuals behind the Iron Curtain. She has served as a lector, member of the vestry, choir, Sunday School teacher, co-leader of YWA, President of the Protestant Women of the Chapel in Heidelberg, Germany, and guide for a regional ladies’ Bible study in Virginia. The deceased was of the Baptist and Episcopal faith, and a member of St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, Durham.

She had been invested as Chevaleresse in the Priory of St. Thomas a’ Becket of the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem on the deck of the USS North Carolina. Rotary International named her as a Paul Harris Fellow. She and her family were honored as Family of the Year. She loved gardening, served as President of two Garden Clubs, and was granted life membership in the Garden Club of Virginia. Other activities included service to Girl Scouts of America in six countries; the American Red Cross as an Advanced First Aid Instructor; coordinator for Blood Drives; volunteer in several military hospitals, and Vice President of the Durham Waiting Wives Club. She also served as a DAR volunteer in three veterans’ hospitals in Virginia, and as State Chairman for Veteran Service with the Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution and United States Daughters of 1812. She was Vice President of Swamp Fox, and an active member of the Umstead Pines Book Club.

Over her lifetime, Mrs. Odom was actively engaged in over 80 lineage organizations. Of special note were her national leaderships including National Sons and Daughters of Antebellum Planters; Sons and Daughters of Colonial and Antebellum Bench and Bar; Presidential Families of America; Order of Descendants of the Justiciars; Plymouth Hereditary Society; Hereditary Order of Descendants of the Loyalists and Patriots of the American Revolution; Order of Alba, Founders Fellowship; Order of the Kings and Queens in the Holy Land; Order of Descendants of El Cid; Hereditary Order of the Red Dragon; Order of the House of Wessex; Hereditary Order of First Families of Massachusetts; National Order of the Blue and Gray; The Winthrop Society; and Order of Founders of the Granville District. She was an Inaugural Patron of the Hereditary Society Community, Honorary Member of the Class of 2016, and served on the HSC Cabinet. Mrs. Odom was a member of The National Gavel Society.

She compiled two prayer books with rituals from District II, for Virginia DAR, and for Descendants of Early Postmasters. She was editor for 17 local, state, or national publications and co-editor of 5. She authored 34 articles on a variety of subjects with 13 articles focusing on "American Heroines of National Defense". Mrs. Odom was a judge for the Texas Genealogical Society that annually honors native Texans who have made outstanding contributions of service for lineage organizations. Dr. James DeMaris Birchfield dedicated his book Some British Ancestors of Capt. James Blount to Carla Lucille Whitehurst Odom, "whose adventures in medieval genealogy suggested this study." At the time of her death, she was a contributing editor for several national organizations.

Paul Walden  
Chaplain  
Order of the House of Wessex  
paulwalden@live.com  
phone(703) 346-2091

**Order of the House of Wessex**  
**Treasurer General Report**  
**Constance Paradiso**  
February 15, 2026

**2025 Medieval Night Summary Profit & Loss**

Income	\$6,599.68
3 Meal Payments	<u>+ 750.00</u>
Income	\$7,349.68
 Expense	 <u>-\$7,021.13</u>
 Profit (Loss)	 \$ 328.55

<b>First State Bank and Trust Balance as of 2/15/2026</b>	<b>\$38,466.61</b>
0 Outstanding checks	\$0.00
<b>Working Balance as of 2/15/2026</b>	<b>\$38,466.61</b>
Beginning Balance 3/27/2025	\$44,524.99
Total Income 3/27/2025-2/15/2026	\$2775.00
<i>\$750 late Medieval meal pmts</i>	
<i>\$2025 New member dues</i>	
Total Expenses 5/31/24-2/28/25	\$9,443.38
<i>See detail report attached</i>	

The Order of the House of Wessex is fiscally solid. This report covers 10.5 months since the last annual report.

Transaction Detail Report and Reconciliation attached.

The 2025 FY 990-N has been filed with the IRS. Confirmation available in 6-8 weeks.

1/31/2026 bank statement attached.



ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF WESSEX  
C/O MICHAEL S SWISHER

Account Number: \*\*\*\*\*7064  
Statement Date: 1/31/26  
Page Number: 1  
Items: 3

\*\*\*\* DO NOT MAIL \*\*\*\*

**SMALL BUSINESS # : \*\*\*\*\*7064**

Previous Balance on 12/31/25	\$	37,888.55
2 Deposits and Other Additions (Credits)	+	600.00
1 Checks and other Charges (Debits)	-	21.94
Current Balance on 1/31/26	\$	38,466.61

**CHECKING ACCOUNT TRANSACTIONS**

1/12/26 RDA MOBILE DEP 2178873186	300.00 +
1/12/26 RDA MOBILE DEP 217887274	300.00 +
Check #    Date Paid    Amount	Check #    Date Paid    Amount
1099      1/23/26      21.94	

**DAILY BALANCE SUMMARY**

Balance Date	Balance Date	Balance Date	Balance Date
37,888.55 12/31	38,488.55 1/12	38,466.61 1/23	
Average Ledger Balance for Period was		38,269.28	

4:11 PM

02/15/26

Accrual Basis

**Order of the House of Wessex  
Profit & Loss Detail  
March 28, 2025 through February 15, 2026**

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>						
<b>Income</b>						
<b>Other Types of Income</b>						
Deposit	04/15/2025	DEP		MEDIEVAL EVENI...	500.00	500.00
Deposit	04/15/2025	DEP		MEDIEVAL EVENI...	250.00	750.00
Total Other Types of Income					750.00	750.00
<b>Program Income</b>						
<b>Membership Dues</b>						
Deposit	07/11/2025	DEP		CHRISTIE ANN NO...	275.00	275.00
Deposit	08/30/2025	DEP		COLEMAN-HORNE...	550.00	825.00
Deposit	11/12/2025	DEP		Deposit	25.00	850.00
Deposit	11/12/2025	DEP		Deposit	275.00	1,125.00
Deposit	11/12/2025	DEP		Deposit	300.00	1,425.00
Deposit	01/09/2026	DEP		THACHER 167 AN...	600.00	2,025.00
Total Membership Dues					2,025.00	2,025.00
Total Program Income					2,025.00	2,025.00
Total Income					2,775.00	2,775.00
<b>Expense</b>						
<b>Business Expenses</b>						
<b>Business Registration Fees</b>						
Check	09/22/2025	1097	PAUL WALDEN	STATE OF VIRGINI...	25.00	25.00
Total Business Registration Fees					25.00	25.00
Total Business Expenses					25.00	25.00
<b>DONATION DISBURSEMENT</b>						
Check	07/14/2025	1094	MTSU Foundation	to support classical ...	500.00	500.00
Total DONATION DISBURSEMENT					500.00	500.00
<b>Operations</b>						
<b>Postage, Mailing Service</b>						
Check	04/23/2025	1092	CONSTANCE PAR...	ARMY NAVY CLUB...	10.10	10.10
Check	08/29/2025	1095	DIRECT MAIL PRI...		607.92	618.02
Check	08/29/2025	1096	JIM PARTIN	REGISTRAR POST...	14.44	632.46
Check	01/11/2026	1099	JIM PARTIN		21.94	654.40
Total Postage, Mailing Service					654.40	654.40
<b>Printing and Copying</b>						
Check	08/29/2025	1095	DIRECT MAIL PRI...		1,011.00	1,011.00
Total Printing and Copying					1,011.00	1,011.00
<b>Website Expenses</b>						
Check	11/25/2025	1098	PAUL WALDEN	WEBSITE RENEW...	231.85	231.85
Total Website Expenses					231.85	231.85
Total Operations					1,897.25	1,897.25
<b>Travel and Meetings</b>						
<b>Conference, Convention, Meeting</b>						
Check	04/12/2025	1091	The Army and Nav...	MEDIEVAL EVENING	6,968.60	6,968.60
Check	04/28/2025	1093	RENEE HAMILTON	MEDIEVAL EVENI...	52.53	7,021.13
Total Conference, Convention, Meeting					7,021.13	7,021.13
Total Travel and Meetings					7,021.13	7,021.13
Total Expense					9,443.38	9,443.38
Net Ordinary Income					-6,668.38	-6,668.38
<b>Net Income</b>					<b>-6,668.38</b>	<b>-6,668.38</b>

**Remote Deposit** Credit

First State Bank and Trust Bayport RD  
Mobile Micro Business Capture ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF WESSEX  
100 N Hwy 15  
Bayport, MN 55003  
651-439-5326

Date: 1/12/2026  
Items: 1  
Amount: \$300.00  
Batch ID: 20611509992  
ACCOUNT ID: 255761 1229373  
Acct Name: 4827064  
AuthCode: 2120073106

RDA MOBILE DEP Date: 01/12 Amount: \$300.00

**Remote Deposit** Credit

First State Bank and Trust Bayport RD  
Mobile Micro Business Capture ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF WESSEX  
100 N Hwy 15  
Bayport, MN 55003  
651-439-5326

Date: 1/12/2026  
Items: 1  
Amount: \$300.00  
Batch ID: 20611509994  
ACCOUNT ID: 255761 1229373  
Acct Name: 4827064  
AuthCode: 2120077274

RDA MOBILE DEP Date: 01/12 Amount: \$300.00

ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF WESSEX 1099

1/11/26

JIM PARTIN

21.94

100 N Hwy 15  
Bayport, MN 55003  
651-439-5326

#004095# 10914115516 Ad#2105A#

CHECK #1099 Date: 01/23 Amount: \$21.94

3:12 PM  
02/15/26

## Order of the House of Wessex Reconciliation Summary Order of the House of Wessex, Period Ending 01/31/2026

	Jan 31, 26
Beginning Balance	37,888.55
Cleared Transactions	
Checks and Payments - 1 item	-21.94
Deposits and Credits - 1 item	600.00
Total Cleared Transactions	578.06
Cleared Balance	38,466.61
Register Balance as of 01/31/2026	38,466.61
Ending Balance	38,466.61

3:12 PM  
02/15/26

## Order of the House of Wessex Reconciliation Detail Order of the House of Wessex, Period Ending 01/31/2026

Type	Date	Num	Name	Clr	Amount	Balance
Beginning Balance						37,888.55
Cleared Transactions						
Checks and Payments - 1 item						
Check	01/11/2026	1099	JIM PARTIN	X	-21.94	-21.94
Total Checks and Payments					-21.94	-21.94
Deposits and Credits - 1 item						
Deposit	01/09/2026	DEP		X	600.00	600.00
Total Deposits and Credits					600.00	600.00
Total Cleared Transactions					578.06	578.06
Cleared Balance					578.06	38,466.61
Register Balance as of 01/31/2026					578.06	38,466.61
Ending Balance					578.06	38,466.61

### Tax Year 2025 Form 990-N (e-Postcard)

**Tax Period:**  
2025 (01/01/2025-12/31/2025)

**EIN:**  
82-3403236

**Organization Name (Doing Business as):**  
ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF WESSEX

**Mailing Address:**  
360 S WAYNE AVE  
WAYNESBORO, VA 22980  
United States

**Principal Officer's Name and Address:**  
MARKE E YOUNG SR  
208 BRALEY CT  
MURFREESBORO, TN 37129  
United States

**Gross receipts not greater than:**  
\$50,000

**Organization has terminated:**  
No

**Website URL:**

Constance Paradiso  
Treasurer General Report  
Order of the House of Wessex  
paradiso@ntelos.net

The Order of the House of Wessex Financial Records for the period 2/29/25 – 3/14/2026 are being reviewed by Michael Swisher.

Order of the House of Wessex  
Secretary General  
Carlton Murray Mansfield  
February 20, 2026  
Order of the House of Wessex

Minutes of the Annual Meeting  
07 April 2025  
Army and Navy Club  
Washington, DC

The meeting was called to order by President General Mark Young at 8:58 PM EDT.

A quorum was established and announced by Secretary General Carlton Mansfield. (21 were in attendance.)

An invocation was given by Chaplain General Paul Walden.

Counselor Suzanna Rawlins led the membership in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion was made and duly seconded to ratify and validate the election of the current slate of officers. The motion passed.

The minutes of the Special Zoom meeting of 27 March 2025 were approved.

Reports of officers previously submitted and reported in the Spring 2025 Anglo Saxon Chronicle were summarized.

Motion was made and duly seconded to accept the Audit Report of Michael Swisher. The motion passed.

Budget Report of Treasurer General Constance Paradiso was presented. A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed.

Committee reports were received from the chairs of the Nominating Committee, Medieval Night Committee, and Finance Committee.

First Vice-President General Robin Towns announced that the directory of the Order was ready to go to the printer.

There was no Old Business.

It was announced that the Executive Board unanimously approved a gift of \$500.00 to Middle Tennessee State University designated for their Classical Studies Curriculum.

There was a discussion about the proposed bylaw changes that had been previously distributed. A motion was made and duly seconded to establish a Bylaws Committee and refer the proposed changes to that committee. The motion passed.

Motion was made and duly seconded to make Ann Garner an Honorary President General. The voting was conducted by secret ballot. The motion failed with 8 votes for and 13 votes against.

It was announced that the next meeting of the Order will be held 13 April 2026, in Washington, DC.

The President General adjourned the meeting at 9:34 PM EDT.

All reports will be attached and made part of the official record of the Order.

Carlton Murray Mansfield  
Order of the House of Wessex  
cmansfield@mansfieldlawfirm.com

Order of the House of Wessex  
Registrar & Genealogist General  
James D. Partin  
February 11, 2026

168 – Members

26 – Supplemental Applications

James D. Partin  
Registrar & Genealogist General  
Order of the House of Wessex  
408 S. Emerald Woods Run  
Farmington, AR 72730-7098  
(352) 333-3010  
jimpartin1@gmail.com

**Order of the House of Wessex  
Chancellor General Pro Tempore'  
Deborah W. Hicks**

February 22, 2026

“Nothing new to report.”

.  
Deborah W Hicks  
Chancellor General Pro Tempore'  
Order of the House of Wessex,  
1132 N Eufaula Avenue  
Eufaula AL 36027-5537  
Ph: 334-687-8369  
Fx: 334-687-7613  
eufaulalawyer@gmail.com

**Order of the House of Wessex  
Historian**

**Virginia Rouse**  
February 3, 2026

“I have nothing new to report. I am always keeping my eye out for anyone who might Qualify. Since I am Registrar in other societies at the VA State & or chapter level, I try to guide the ones that have a good line to other societies.”

Virginia Rouse  
Historian  
Order of the House of Wessex  
gintam7@aol.com

**Order of the House of Wessex  
Councilor, Webmaster, Facebook Administrator, & Bylaws Committee Chair  
Suzanna Rawlins**

February 3, 2026

“I completed my duties as the by-laws chairperson and they were submitted on time. I have made website updates when requested.”

Suzanna Rawlins  
Councilor, Webmaster and Facebook Page Administrator  
Order of the House of Wessex  
leaveyourlegacy@att.net

**Order of the House of Wessex  
Parliamentarian, Medieval Night Banquet Chair &  
2026-2028 Nominating Committee Chair  
Renee Willingham Hamilton**

February 11, 2026

**2026-2028 Nominating Committee**

Chair: Parliamentarian, Renee Willingham Hamilton - [diggingupancestry@yahoo.com](mailto:diggingupancestry@yahoo.com)  
Councilor, Suzanna Rawlins - [leaveyourlegacy@att.net](mailto:leaveyourlegacy@att.net)  
Treasurer, Constance Paradiso - [paradiso@ntelos.net](mailto:paradiso@ntelos.net)

Your Nominating Committee is pleased to propose the following slate of officers for the Order of the House of Wessex for the 2026-2028 term.

The Office of President General, Mr. Paul Walden, [PaulWalden@live.com](mailto:PaulWalden@live.com)

The Office of First Vice President General, Mr. Carlton M. Mansfield, [cmansfield@mansfieldlaw-firm.com](mailto:cmansfield@mansfieldlaw-firm.com)

The Office of Second Vice President General, Julie Palmer Hesler, [Julie.hesler@icloud.com](mailto:Julie.hesler@icloud.com)

The Office of Chaplain, Renee Willingham Hamilton, [DiggingUpAncestry@gmail.com](mailto:DiggingUpAncestry@gmail.com)

The Office of Treasurer, Suzanna Rawlins, [leaveyourlegacy@att.net](mailto:leaveyourlegacy@att.net)

The Office of Secretary, EuGene Smith - [bigusmith@yahoo.com](mailto:bigusmith@yahoo.com)

The Office of Registrar, James Partin – [jimpartin1@gmail.com](mailto:jimpartin1@gmail.com)

The Office of Historian, Virginia Rouse, [gintam7@aol.com](mailto:gintam7@aol.com)

The Office of Councilor, Constance Paradiso, [paradiso@ntelos.net](mailto:paradiso@ntelos.net)

All proposed Officers were contacted and have agreed to serve in the positions proposed. We did not fill the candidate for The Office of Chancellor due to when the Bylaws are approved, the office will be removed.

It has been a pleasure to serve,  
Renee Hamilton  
Constance Paradiso  
Suzanna Rawlins

Renee Willingham Hamilton  
Order of the House of Wessex  
Parliamentarian, Medieval Banquet Night Chair,  
& 2026-2028 Nominating Committee Chair  
[diggingupancestry@yahoo.com](mailto:diggingupancestry@yahoo.com)

## *Closing Remarks From the President General*

As my term as President General draws to a close, I want to extend my heartfelt wishes to each of you and your families for a safe, healthy, and happy spring and summer. May the coming months bring you joy, renewal, and time well spent with those who matter most.

For those of you who will be traveling in the months ahead, I wish you safe journeys wherever the road may lead. I especially look forward to seeing many of you in Washington, D.C., this April, where we will once again gather in fellowship and celebration of our shared heritage and traditions. These occasions remind us that the strength of our Order lies not only in its history, but in the friendships, camaraderie, and mutual respect we share with one another.

I encourage each of you to continue supporting and strengthening our beloved Order by inviting and assisting others who may be eligible to join. The future of the Order of the House of Wessex depends upon the continued dedication of its members to preserve, promote, and expand the fellowship we cherish. By welcoming new members and guiding them into the life of the Order, we ensure that our traditions, values, and mission remain vibrant for generations to come.

Serving as your President General has been one of the greatest honors of my life. I have approached this responsibility with a deep sense of duty, loyalty, and respect for the remarkable organization we share. I have always considered myself not simply a leader, but a servant of the Order and of its members. The trust you placed in me is something I will always value and never take lightly.

I sincerely thank each of you for your support, your counsel, your friendship, and your commitment to the continued success of the Order of the House of Wessex. Together, we have strengthened our foundation and ensured that the Order will continue to thrive under the capable leadership that follows.

With gratitude and respect, I remain your loyal servant and deeply appreciate the privilege and honor of having served you.

Warmest Regards,

Lord & Honorable Col. Mark E. Young, Sr., PhD, MBA  
(804) 536-2926

Honorable Kentucky Colonel  
The Honorable Tennessee Colonel - Aide to Camp  
Member of the National Gavel Society  
National President General - Order of the House of Wessex

Lord in Waiting - Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva.  
Crown & Scepter  
Life Member - Sons of the American Revolution (SAR)  
TNSSAR – President Elect  
National & Tennessee State Color Guard,  
President Stones River Chapter, Murfreesboro  
TN, Genealogist, District Bugler, SAR/DAR - National Patriot Research System Volunteer - PRS #808, TNSSAR BOG  
Chair - Flags & Flag Retirements Committee, & Naturalization Committee, Tennessee Volunteer Coordinator-137th  
National Congress; Dual member in John Sevier and Major David Wilson Chapters.  
Admiral of the Line - Cherry River Navy of West Virginia  
Sons of the American Legion (SAL) 2020-2022 Virginia State Detachment Historian, VA&R Chairman, & Post 284 SAL  
Historian, National Award winning Historian  
VFW Auxiliary President 2021-2022 - Post 8422, Life Member & MALTA Cootie  
Veteran's Administration Center for Development & Civic Engagement (CDCE) - SAL Associate Representative, Alvin  
C. York VAMC, VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System  
Life Member – Past National Director, Maryland Society Sons of the War of 1812  
Life Member – Sons of Confederate Veterans, Murfreesboro Camp #33, 1st. Lt. Commander  
Life Member & Past Chapter President, Alpha Phi Omega International Service Fraternity  
Life Member, Past State Lt. Gov., Past Chapter Chairman & President - SERTOMA