



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BENEDICT F. GEDAMINSKI, JR., 100TH PRESIDENT



To all NES Members,

Welcome to the Spring 2020 newsletter. Normally, this would have been a Winter newsletter, but it's been delayed by this ever-changing environment which we are currently in.

The Board of Directors is continuing to meet remotely and at the March meeting it was decided that, out of an abundance of caution, Founders' Day 2020 will be cancelled. Currently, we have selected Thursday, May 20, 2021 for our next Founders' Day and the program planned for this year, "The 2020 Pilgrim Quadricentennial: the 400th Anniversary of the Mayflower Landing and the Start of the Great Migration to New England, 1620 – 1640" presented by Brenton Simons, President and CEO of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society will be scheduled for 2021.

The April Member/Guest event has likewise been cancelled and will not be rescheduled; our next Member/Guest event will be in October. Our Book Awards program is continuing to move forward and the jury committees will be able to meet online to choose the winners. The Book Awards Salon and Presentation event in June is still being planned, but is subject to postponement. We have selected September 10th as an alternate date and will make an announcement when this is firm.

Scholarship season is approaching quickly, but given the uncertainty of the rest of the school year, we may need to make some adjustments to the program. The Scholarship Committee is in the process of evaluating and additional information will be announced in late April.

But there is good news! I am pleased to announce that Susan Wissler, Executive Director at The Mount, Edith Wharton's Home has been selected to receive the 2020 Townsend award. You will find her biography elsewhere in the newsletter.

Given that we cannot socialize in person, we are working on scheduling online social events via Zoom. Keep an eye out for the invites. By the time you read this we should have had at least one, and I hope you will join us for the next.

Please stay safe and healthy.

Regards,

Benedict Gedaminski  
NES 100th President

## RONALD LEE FLEMING HONORED AT THE 214TH ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

Ronald Lee Fleming is founder and president of The Townscape Institute, a nonprofit public interest planning organization based in Cambridge, MA. As an urban planner and designer, preservation advocate, civic leader, thought leader and change agent, Mr. Fleming's lifetime of work focuses on

creating livable and sustainable cities, towns, and neighborhoods. The author of six books, Mr. Fleming was founding chairman of the Cambridge Municipal Arts Council, is Chair Emeritus of Scenic America, and has served many other cultural and civic organizations. His philanthropic work to support initiatives to beautify and improve communities led Newport RI to declare "Ron Fleming Day," noting: "Mr. Fleming is a recognized authority in the role of art in creating vibrant, livable places, adding luster to Newport's worldwide reputation as a showcase of art and architecture."

The New England Society was proud to honor Mr. Fleming with the Reginald T. Townsend Award, named for our 64th president.



*Benedict Gedaminski,  
Ronald Lee Fleming*

## JENNIFER MITCHELL RECEIVES THE J.P. MORGAN AWARD



*Benedict Gedaminski,  
Jennifer Mitchell*

Also at the Dinner Dance, Jennifer Mitchell was presented with the J. P. Morgan Award. Named for the noted financier and philanthropist who was the Society's 26th President, the award is presented annually to a member who has demonstrated outstanding service and devotion to the New England Society.

# 214th Annual Dinner Dance

(METROPOLITAN CLUB, NOVEMBER 8, 2019)



*Benedict Gedaminski, Ronald Lee Fleming*



*BiBi Conrad, Michael Scully, Junia Doan,  
Jonathan Conrad*



*Tina Whitman,  
Jan Whitman Ogden*



*Karen Bevan, Stewart Bevan*



*Hilda Neis, Arnold Neis*



*Trip Dorkey,  
Andrea Rose Rousseaux*



*Kendra Swee, Jennifer Mitchell,  
Anne Teasdale*



*Colleen Hills, Tom Hills*



*Diana Szapary,  
Paul Szapary*



*Andrew Bevan, Devon Mehring,  
Kendra Swee*



*Geoffrey Von Barton, Matthew Von Barton,  
Katherine Johnson*



*Bonnie Perry, Melissa Zack*



*Arnold Neis, Liz Bierman, Steve Bierman*

Photo credit: AnnieWatt.com



*Salvatore Scalogna,  
Diane Scalogna*



*Tom Hills, Connie Greenspan, Anna Bulkot, Alan Frese,  
Arnold Neis, Anne Elser*



*Chanelle Johnson,  
Max Johnson*



*Diana Szapary, Ronald Lee Fleming,  
Rosemary Harder, Paul Szapary*



*Anna Bulkot, George Drance, Anne Elser, Dermot Sullivan*



*Rick Perkins*



*Salvatore Scalogna, Diane Scalogna,  
Connie Greenspan, Judy Bliss*



*Alex Donner, Jen Bawden, Gregg Lefevre, Gavin Hale*



*Dermot Sullivan,  
Anne Hall Elser*



*Nancy Rothe, Ernst Rothe*



*David Schuyler Bender,  
Barbara Meister Bender*



*Jeff Soule, Dermot Sullivan, Stewart Bevan*

SEE MORE PHOTOS AT [NESNYC.ORG/EVENTS!](http://NESNYC.ORG/EVENTS!)

# 214th Annual Dinner Dance

(METROPOLITAN CLUB, NOVEMBER 8, 2019)



*Carol Weston, Rob Ackerman, Lindy Gallagher, Jeremy Webb*



*Charlotte Kellogg,  
Richard Sammons, Anne Fairfax*



*Rita Murray, Robert Murray,  
Colleen Hills*



*Holly Peck,  
Douglas Winston*



*Alexandra Owens, Benedict  
Gedaminski, Duncan Schieb*



*David Chieng, Lauren Silberman,  
Stephen Storen*



*Jean Savage,  
Trip Dorkey*



*Katherine Johnson, Geoffrey von Barton III, Mark Pearson, John Farrell,  
Matthew Rimi von Barton, Daisy Field-Pearson, Andrew Bevan, Max Johnson,  
Victoria Boaz, Kendra Swee, Chanelle Johnson, Devon Mehring*



*Marjorie Hart, Gurnee Hart,  
Ronald Lee Fleming*



*Stefano Acunto,  
Carole Harmann*



*Tatyana James,  
Melissa Zack*



*Benedict Gedaminski*

SEE MORE PHOTOS AT [NESNYC.ORG/EVENTS!](http://NESNYC.ORG/EVENTS!)

# NES UPDATE

## WELCOME OUR INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS

These new Directors joined the Board in January and will serve through 2023.



Danzey Burnham



Charles "Trip" Dorkey III



Roland Foster Miller



Mark Pearson



MAKE 2020 THE YEAR

**YOU**

HELP NES GROW!

Become an NES Ambassador by bringing a friend to an event or proposing them for membership. Refer your friends to [www.nesnyc.org](http://www.nesnyc.org) to fill out an application.

## 2020 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Benedict Gedaminski, **President**

Ellen Scordato, **First Vice President**

Jennifer Mitchell, **Second Vice President**

Laurence Golding, **Treasurer**

Matthew Rimi von Barton, **Secretary**

Cornelia H. Greenspan, **Assistant Secretary**

Jan Whitman Ogden, **Assistant Treasurer**

### Directors

Danzey Burnham

Charles "Trip" Dorkey III

Nancy (Sunny) Hayward

Michael Kovner

Roland Foster Miller

Mark Pearson

Richard Perkins

Anne Teasdale

Kendra Swee

## NEW MEMBERS

Victoria Boaz

Zara Marian

Marian Morrill

Carl Raymond

# Fall Member-Guest Reception

(ARADER GALLERY, THURSDAY OCTOBER 10, 2019)



*Matthew Rimi Von Barton,  
Benedict Gedaminski*



*Benedict Gedaminski, Lucy Kirk, Richard Johnson, Nancy Rothe, Ernst Rothe,  
Leslie Middlebrook Moore, Douglas Kiddie; front: Jan Whitman Ogden, Karen Bevan*



*Ellen Scordato, Monique Rinere*



*Danzey Burnham, Lucy Kirk*



*Emily Mohr, Benedict Gedaminski,  
Katherine Johnson*



*Holly Peck, Richard Perkins, Judy Bliss,  
Connie Greenspan*



*Douglas Kiddie, Jay Sherwood*



*Leslie Middlebrook Moore,  
Judy Bliss, Tom Hadlock*



*Katherine Johnson,  
Geoffrey Von Barton III*



*Leslie Middlebrook Moore,  
Douglas Kiddie*



*Judy Bliss, Bill Lentini, Ellen Scordato*



*Richard Johnson, Lucy Kirk,  
Fred MacEachron*



*Jay Sherwood, Ernst Rothe, Nancy Rothe*

Photo Credit: Kate Weiman

# Christmas Party

(COSMOPOLITAN CLUB, DECEMBER 11, 2019)



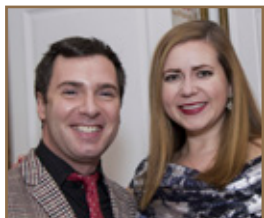
*Carolyn Zezima, Eva McCarron,  
Ellen Scordato, Benedict Gedaminski*



*Terrance Smart, Melissa Zack, Holly Peck, Dan Ladner*



*Emily Mohr, Jillian Atkins,  
Ashley Picker Dubin*



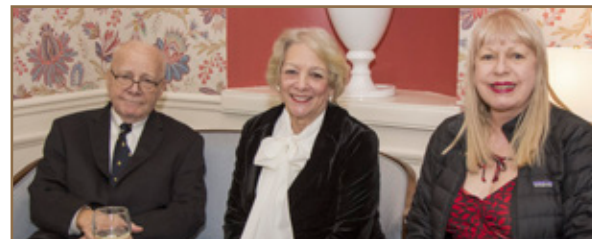
*Matt Von Barton,  
Katherine Johnson*



*Geoffrey von Barton III,  
Kendra Swee*



*Salvatore Scalogna,  
Diane Scalogna*



*Terrance Smart, Melissa Zack, Judy Bliss*



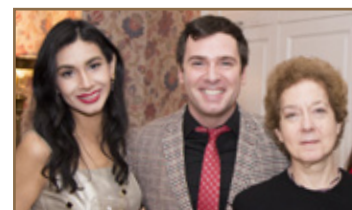
*Thomas Krouwer, Joe Marley, Connie Greenspan,  
Ellen Scordato, Benedict Gedaminski, Mark Pearson*



*Bob Dawson (piano),  
Connie Greenspan*



*Carolyn Zezima, Eva McCarron*



*Daisy Field-Pearson, Matt von  
Barton, Lauren Silberman*



*Cynthia Mitchell, Jennifer Mitchell,  
Kendra Swee*



*Jane Crawford,  
Jan Whitman Ogden*



*Lee Ballinger, Alan Bialeck*



*Thomas Winston, Marian Morrill*



*Lauren Silberman, Eva McCarron,  
Emily Mohr, Jillian Atkins, Ashley Picker Dubin,  
Matt von Barton; front, at piano, Bob Dawson*

Photo Credit: Kate Weiman



New England Society  
in the City of New York

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New York, NY 10017

212-297-2194

[www.nesnyc.org](http://www.nesnyc.org)

## REMEMBER TO BE SOCIAL WITH NES

Check for updates about NES events  
and Society information!



@NEWENGLANDSoc

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020 NOW!

Go to [www.nesnyc.org](http://www.nesnyc.org) or call  
the office at (212) 297-2194.



**SAVE THE DATE!** November 13  
for our Annual Dinner Dance,  
where **Susan Wissler**, Executive Director,  
The Mount, Edith Wharton's Home will be  
presented with the Townsend Award.

Susan Wissler joined The Mount in 2001 as Vice President and became Executive Director in 2008. Ms. Wissler graduated from Brown University, received a J.D. from Columbia University, and, prior to joining The Mount, practiced law in New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. Highlights of Ms. Wissler's nineteen years at The Mount include the return of Wharton's books to the library and the retirement of The Mount's debt. In 2018, Ms. Wissler edited deceased French scholar and author Claudine Lesage's *Edith Wharton in France*.

