

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 187

Commending the Christopher Wren Association.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 2016
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 10, 2016

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Christopher Wren Association in Williamsburg proudly celebrates its 25th anniversary of providing opportunities for lifelong learning and enrichment in a collegial environment of sharing and fellowship; and

WHEREAS, the Christopher Wren Association (CWA) was founded in 1991 by Wayne and Ruth Kernodle; the two retired college educators envisioned a volunteer organization focused on lifelong learning with a wide variety of courses taught by experts in the field; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, with an initial enrollment of 105 students, CWA offered its first classes, which were taught by retired professors, specialists from Colonial Williamsburg, and other professionals in the community; and

WHEREAS, today, CWA enrolls more than 1,400 students, who can explore an array of topics through lectures, courses, field trips, special event tours, and other activities; over the years, many people have volunteered their time and talents as instructors, hosts, assistants, committee members, and board members; and

WHEREAS, the Christopher Wren Association is named for the acclaimed English architect as well as the landmark building on the campus of The College of William and Mary that bears his name; the majority of CWA's classes are held on the historic campus, and the college supports the organization in a variety of other ways; and

WHEREAS, recent courses offered by CWA include classes on John Adams, Frank Sinatra, international trade, opera, criminal law, and local history; CWA's array of programs includes weekly foreign language conversation tables, book discussion groups, lawn bowling, wine appreciation, and computer instruction; and

WHEREAS, CWA students have many other learning opportunities; some groups regularly visit nearby historic and artistic sites, and another popular activity is the association's well-regarded Town & Gown series; and

WHEREAS, the types of courses and activities that CWA offers constantly change and evolve; in the future, the association may offer online courses to its members and, as part of an outreach effort, to alumni of The College of William and Mary; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Christopher Wren Association on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Wayne and Ruth Kernodle, founders of the Christopher Wren Association, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for the association's vital work to promote lifelong learning in the Commonwealth.