



Drumbeat

with *Flintlock & Powderhorn*

News of the Sons of the Revolution

Volume 29 Number 3

Fall 2011



—for more on historic Boston meeting, see pages 4-5

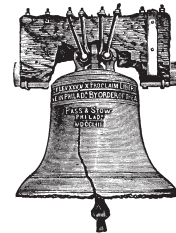
Sweet Freedom Rings

*"Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land
Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof."*

—as inscribed on the Liberty Bell

The Pennsylvania Society, Sons of the Revolution (PSSR) commemorated the 235th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2011, with the traditional "Let Freedom Ring" ceremony in Philadelphia's historic district.

Thousands of bells across the country joined in the ceremony at 2 p.m., simultaneously tolling thirteen times to commemorate the original thirteen colonies that became the United States.



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Sustaining and Growing the Society in Virginia

By Carter V. Reid

The Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Virginia has been quietly thriving, underscored by years of strong membership gains, especially among men under forty years of age. In the past five years, the Virginia Society has gained at least twenty new members each year. With that kind of record, the Society was invited to submit this article to the Drumbeat explaining the reasons behind such fantastic growth. Mr. Reid is the Society Secretary.

Many things have changed since 1895, when twenty newly inducted General Society members sat down in Richmond, Virginia, on a warm June day to discuss the potential of forming a State Society in the Old Dominion.

Notwithstanding the Great War, the Great Depression, the Second Great War and the many other travails of the twentieth century, one thing has remained constant: Over the past 116 years, the Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Virginia (VSSR) have



2011 Virginia Society inductees
—photo courtesy Hunter Tate Photography

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FRAUNCES TAVERN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York is mandated to preserve the historic Fraunces Tavern Museum complex. It's a tall order for a small organization. Over the past two-and-a-half years, hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent to repair and restore many parts of the Tavern and its four connected buildings, from roof to cellar. The work still goes on. It must go on.

Today we reach out for your help. Please join us by sending in whatever you can. Your donation is fully tax deductible under current IRS rules. Call, email or write today and request a free informational packet.

Contact: Fraunces Tavern Capital Campaign, 54 Pearl Street, New York NY 10004-2429; Phone 212-425-1776; Email: 2Administrator@sonsoftherevolution.org. ■

—submitted by Anthony Wellman



Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Sgt. Shepherd Resolution Contains Inaccuracy

Readers quickly noted the factual inaccuracy contained in the Memorial Day 2011 Congressional Resolution honoring Sgt. John Shepherd (*see Drumbeat Vol. 29, No. 2*). The resolution states the veteran moved to Ohio in 1871, rather than in 1817, as actually occurred. Although the resolution's error seems to be a simple transposition, such honest mistakes can make genealogical research trying and are bothersome for family members.

The date in the resolution would have the veteran arriving to Ohio in his 142nd year (twenty-five years after his death), rather than in his 88th year as happened.

Shepherd descendant and Tennessee Society Lifetime member Charles Phebus spent many years uncovering the war record and lifetime of his fourth-great grandfather. While the Congressional resolution does not give the year of Shepherd's death, Mr. Phebus proved that it occurred in 1847 when the Sergeant had lived 117 years, nine months, and eighteen days. The engraver of the original headstone misspelled his surname and did not account for the calendar change of 1752 before chiseling in an incorrect final age for him. Such gaffes, no matter how slight, can come back to haunt the genealogical researcher.

A copy of this clarification is being sent to the U.S. Congress. ■

—Editor

President's Message

Significance and Consequence



Significance is importance. Consequence is effect. George Washington and our Founding Fathers were persons of Significance and Consequence. They, through their thoughts and actions, joined to create the greatest nation in the history of the world—The United States of America! Even to this very day in the year of our Lord 2011 the United States of America ranks first among all nations in freedom and opportunity. One example of this greatness can be seen in the number of billionaires in our country. Recently, Forbes magazine ranked America first with 413 billionaires compared to 115 for China and 101 for Russia. According to Forbes, there are 58 billionaires in New York City alone.

These are astounding numbers and are a clear example of what can be achieved when people are able to pursue their dreams to the best of their God-given ability, as so eloquently stated in the Declaration of Independence: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.”

Each of us will worship God as we choose, but not all of us can worship God at Christ Church in Philadelphia as did George Washington and many of our Founders. It is also true that none of us will serve at Ft. Ticonderoga or charge up King’s Mountain; but, it is incumbent upon each of us to study and understand just what happened at these and other places during the Revolutionary War. May we never grow weary in keeping alive the memory of these great men of Significance and Consequence!

One hundred years after the Revolutionary War another group of men of Significance and Consequence joined with John Austin Stevens at Fraunces Tavern in New York City to form the Sons of the Revolution, and for over 135 years our Society has been dedicated to keeping alive the memory of George Washington and our Founding Fathers. One example of the legacy of our Society can be found in the John Paul Jones Memorial located in Washington, D.C. The establishment of this memorial was formally discussed in the business session of the 1895 Triennial in Boston (*see page 4*) and serves as a reminder of the great work our Society is capable of. Our founders did create, as stated in our motto, a memorial more lasting than bronze! ■

Terry L. Davenport

1895: A Motion to Fund Memorial

Tribute to John Paul Jones

The following exchange details the historic decision made in Boston to finance the creation of the memorial to John Paul Jones in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Allen (Connecticut). Mr. President, I would like to offer a motion that the General Society urge that Congress pass a bill that was introduced in the last Congress to erect a statue of John Paul Jones. It does not involve any expense at all. The Society has interested them in it and it has been prepared for the next Congress and undoubtedly will be introduced in the next Congress. I don't believe that they even know where he was buried, and I think this is a neglect that this Society ought to wipe out.

Mr. Carpenter (New York). I second the motion.

The President. The Secretary will read it, please.

Mr. Montgomery (General Secretary). (Reading.) Resolved, that the General Society, Sons of the Revolution, urge upon the next Congress the passage of a bill appropriating a suitable amount to erect at the National Capital a statue of John Paul Jones.

Proposed by Louis J. Allen and seconded by Mr. Carpenter.

The President. How does the gentleman propose that it is to be urged upon Congress?

Mr. Allen (Connecticut). Well, I think it would be well to appoint a committee to send in a resolution and go there itself and get it passed. The bill will undoubtedly be introduced in the next Congress. I think it only wants us to be interested in it to get it passed.

The President. If the gentleman will add that as part of his resolution, that the Chair appoint a Committee of a few persons.



Mr. Allen (Connecticut). That a Committee of five be appointed.

Mr. Livingston (Kentucky). The gentleman says it will be introduced into the next Congress. If you will send down into Kentucky, we will have a man.

The President. Well, gentlemen, you have heard the resolution as suggested by the gentleman from Connecticut, that the Chair appoint a Committee of five gentlemen to urge upon the next Congress the appropriation of a sum of money to erect a monument to Paul Jones. Those in favor of the adoption of that resolution will say aye; those opposed, no. The ayes have it, the resolution is adopted.



Images of 1895 Boston: l-r, Knights Templar parade, Boston Beaneaters, and streetcar traffic

PRAYER OF REVEREND LEONARD K. STORRS, D. D.
1895 Chaplain of the Massachusetts Society

Let us Pray. Almighty God, the King of kings and Lord of lords, Who from Thy throne dost behold and govern all the nations of the world. We bless Thee for Thy mercy in giving us this good land in which we dwell. We adore Thee as the God Whom our Fathers trusted and by Whose goodness we have been preserved from manifold and great perils even unto this present time. Inspire our souls, we beseech Thee, with grateful love. Fill us with the abundance of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may be humble and watchful in prosperity, patient and steadfast in adversity, and always enjoy the blessed confidence of that people whose God is the Lord. Call to our remembrance all Thy great mercies of old and give us grace always to seek that righteousness which exalteth a nation, and avoid those sins which are the reproach of any people. Let Thy loving kindness and mercy be over and around us at this present time. Direct us in all our doings with Thy most gracious favor and further us with Thy continued help that in this and in all our works, begun, continued and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy Holy Name and finally, by Thy mercy, obtain everlasting life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



General Society Sons of the Revolution

Board of Managers Meeting

October 13–16, 2011

Wakefield, Massachusetts

Your Name _____ State Society _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Highest Past/Current Office Held _____
or State Delegate Representative

Name (or Nickname) for Badge _____

Guest Name _____

_____ Persons Registration Early Discount – Before August 15* (\$285 each) \$ _____

_____ Persons Registration – August 15 through September 21* (\$295 each) \$ _____

_____ Persons – Optional Friday Boston Day Trip/Tour (\$ 75 each) \$ _____

* Date received at GSSR Headquarters. **Total** \$ _____

Please make checks payable to “General Society Sons of the Revolution”

Send to: General Society Sons of the Revolution
108 S. Liberty Street
Independence, MO 64068

Registration fees include: Oct. 13 - Reception and Clambake; Oct. 14 - Continental Breakfast, Committee Meetings, Business Meeting, and Hospitality Room; Oct. 15 - Continental Breakfast, Business Meeting, Luncheon, Tour in Lexington and Concord, Cash Bar Reception, Banquet; Oct. 16 - Continental Breakfast, Farewell Sherry

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM NOW

Call the Sheraton Colonial Boston North Hotel & Conference Center at 1–800–325–3535.

Address: One Audubon Road, Wakefield, MA 01880.

Special single or double room rates are available Oct.10 thru Oct. 19, 2011, at \$109 per night plus tax with the total cost of \$122 per night. Number of available rooms is limited.

Please indicate the number of nights and rooms reserved at this hotel. Rooms: ____ Nights: ____

Region 2 Establishes Inter-Regional Gatherings



In late July, Region 2 General Vice President Dick Patterson hosted the First GSSR Regional Gathering, which took place in Baltimore. General President Terry Davenport participated in the weekend event and said he hopes such inter-regional social gatherings will become annual or semiannual events across all six regions.

“The purpose of this gathering was to build camaraderie, strengthen relationships, and tour potential sites for the new general headquarters location,” President Davenport said.

The delegation from the Maryland Society included Society President William J. Somerville, III, First Vice President Peter J. Schwab, and Secretary Russell P. Rich. Representing the Virginia Society were Society President Matson Roberts, III, and his son Matson Roberts, IV.



The weekend’s activities began Friday evening, July 22nd, with the Ronny Maher Memorial Polo Match benefiting the 14th Annual University of Maryland R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. All members present were the honored guests of GVP Patterson and his lovely wife, Ginny. Other spouses attending were Debbie Sommerville, Linda Rich, and Shannon Davenport. The Pattersons’ daughter, Virginia Ann, was also present.

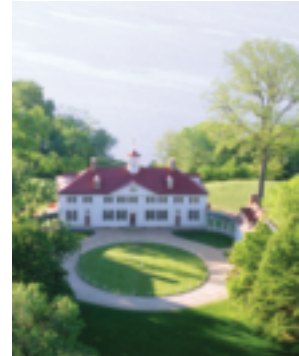
“Shannon and I had a wonderful time,” President Davenport said. “I especially enjoyed what happened after the third chukker, when everyone went out onto the field to stomp divits and enjoy refreshments. President Sommerville really knows how to stomp divits!”

On Saturday, members and spouses received a guided tour of Mount Vernon by John Marshall, the manor’s designated tour guide for special guests. While there, the entourage participated in a memorial ceremony at the tombs of George and Martha Washington. Tourists at the ceremony were asked to step aside while the SR group was called out and allowed to place a wreath next to the gravesites. General President Davenport then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.



The group also toured the estate’s new museum and was given information about the George Washington Presidential Library project now under way. “I never get tired of going to Mount Vernon, and this time getting to go into the mansion’s copula was truly a first,” Terry said. “The panoramic view of the beautiful Virginia landscape and of the mighty Potomac River is awe-inspiring.”

On the same day, the group stopped at the Star Spangled Banner Flag House in historic downtown Baltimore where they were given a delightful private tour by Museum Director Annaliz Montania. “Hats off to General Vice President Patterson for his hard work and planning,” said Mr. Davenport. “Should the decision be made to relocate our current national headquarters from Independence, Missouri, any of these locations we visited would be a great place.” ■



-Virginia Society Membership, cont'd. from page 1

remembered the service of their Revolutionary ancestors and have recognized the need to perpetuate the ideals for which they fought.

The Society is proud to have over 1,637 members on its rolls, with a current active membership of 475. When VSSR leaders and members past and present were asked what underlies the strength of the Virginia Society, the consensus was that among Virginians there's nearly a universal reverence for our nation's patriot ancestors.

Universal Reverence

This should not be understated. At a time when many Americans sorely lack basic understanding about the American Revolution and can't answer elementary questions regarding the Revolutionary era, it is significant that the Virginia Society's membership—and that of other State Societies—doesn't just like the period, or find it interesting, but *reveres* it.

It's difficult to pinpoint the catalyst for the reverence, whether it's partly because Virginia has been home to eight U.S. Presidents, including George Washington, or because the Commonwealth played a crucial role in the founding of the United States. Suffice it to say the geographic location of the state and the history that surrounds the Virginia Society help drive interest a great deal.

A recent example of history at work's lure was in 2007 with the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. Considerable attention was placed on the region leading up to that event, which drove a significant number of inquiries to hereditary societies including the Sons of the Revolution. There's no doubt in the minds of Board Members that the correlation between the Quadricentennial Anniversary of the founding of the New World and the increase in membership inquiries was, and continues to be, related.

Beyond the lure of Virginia's place in American history, the ongoing success of the VSSR is also due to concrete policies put into place and specific steps taken in the management and direction of the Society over the medium term.

Among them, first is the necessity to have devoted individuals. At the heart of the Society's growth over the past decade has been the work of long-dedicated persons: Beverly Mauck, Jr., the Society's Registrar of the previous eight years, and a string of successive Membership chairmen in

Matson Roberts, III, Carter Reid, and (current Chair) Robert Ross.

Additionally, while the Society's Board of Managers and its leadership have always given relative importance to Membership, about a half dozen years ago it was adopted as a primary objective of then-Society President Samuel Witt III, and it has continued through the terms of three successive Society Presidents in Roderick Gardner, Thomas Vance and Mr. Roberts. They have all given Membership increasing attention and effort.

"We always regarded the sustainability of membership as the life-blood of the organization," said past President Roderick Gardner. "Beyond that, setting goals and aspiring to meet them [has] served us well in achieving sustainability..."

Adding to that, Past President Witt emphasized that as early as 2003 the Board decided that a conscious attempt to recruit existing members' sons, grandsons and nephews was good strategy. As an incentive, the Society adopted an attractive Life Membership program for both junior members and active members alike.

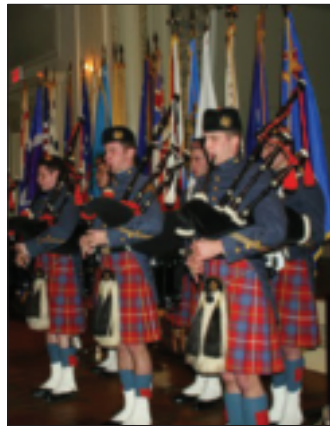
Joining Made Easier

In leading the Membership charge beginning eight years ago, President Roberts adds, "we also profited by the use of both the 'short form' membership application for descendants of existing members and by streamlining the overall application process. For example, members can access a membership application via the Society's website, typing directly into an application

verses printing a blank form and completing an application by hand. This by itself has lessened the perceived burden of going through with the membership process."



Soc. Pres. Matson Roberts, III



The Pipe and Drum Corps



The Virginia Society Colors

Also, considerable time was devoted to following up with those individuals who had expressed interest in joining the Society, even offering that the Society's Registrar or its Membership Committee would help take care of key paperwork.

For as much interest as there might be in the Society, many prospective members don't know where to begin the arduous journey of proving one's ancestral relationship.

The Virginia Society is committed to helping prospective members complete that journey through providing assistance such as genealogical research contacts, research direction and support, and, in some cases, help with completing the application.

There was even further method to the madness. Recognizing that the Laws of Natural



Binford House at Fort Pocahontas.

All page 9 photos by N. Douglas Payne, Jr.

general. It all starts with having the appropriate people as the first point of contact. The Registrar and Membership Chairman were, and continue to be, well-suited to the task."

Within our Society, most agree with Mr. Vance's sentiments, especially as it pertains to the under-forty demographic. Generally speaking, the Society places great emphasis and importance on the wide-ranging support of its core membership. That and

persistence with all of the above. Persistence has paid off. The banner year for recruits was in 2009, when the Society inducted twenty-four new members.

In the opinion of Mr. Witt, "we became more proactive during these years, rather than simply waiting for an application to appear."

Appealing to Families

When the intent



Virginia Society gathering at the James River.



l-r: 1st Vice President William Tunner; Secretary Carter V. Reid; and Ass't. General Treasurer J. E. B. Stuart, IV.

Attrition could not be vanquished, the VSSR made a conscious effort to recruit a younger generation.

Says Registrar Mauck: "We have made the job of strengthening our Society our second career, and in so doing we began introducing the importance of hereditary societies to our younger generations and to the friends and acquaintances of current members."

Past President Vance agrees. "The Virginia Society has been fortunate to find heightened interest in our organization," he said. "This coupled with our enthusiastic Membership Committee has allowed us to cover most attrition and experience significant growth in the under-forty demographic. [That bracket] is an important age group in any social organization and presents unique opportunities to lineage societies in

becomes the recruitment of younger men, then the benefits of membership need to embrace the family as a whole. Many inquiries come with an added question: "What activities exist throughout the year for me and my family?"

To answer that, the Society began looking at events that not only catered to the "Sons," but to their families as well. One such event is an Annual Oyster Roast on the banks of the James River, not far from Sherwood Forrest, home of President John Tyler, and just up river from the first Colonial Capital, Williamsburg, Virginia.

November 5, 2011 will mark the third such event. Hosted by Virginia Society member Harrison Tyler (grandson of President John Tyler), the

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-*Virginia Society Membership, cont'd. from page 9*



l-r: Carter V. Reid and N. Douglas Payne, Jr.

All page 10 photos by Hunter Tate Photography

event is held at Fort Pocahontas and is open to all members and their families, including guests and prospective members. Casual events like this one compliment more formal events and add value and appeal to one's membership.

Another event that draws huge numbers and piques the interest of prospective members is the Virginia Society's Annual George Washington Birthday Dinner. Held at The Commonwealth Club in downtown Richmond, the black-tie, all-male event (wives of Board Members and VIP guests meet separately) draws over 200 members and guests in what is seen as a huge patriotic gathering.

Each year, not only are the five branches of the Armed Forces honored, but so is a senior-ranking officer of each branch. The dinner is also attended annually by special military guests, such as the Virginia Military Institute's (VMI) Pipe and Drum Corps and Col. Van T. Barfoot, USA (Ret), one of the nations last WWII Medal of Honor Recipients.

Finally, the night is capped off with Virginia's annual new member induction ceremony with a few words by nationally recognized speakers—some of which have been Cmd. Paul Galanti, USN (Ret); former Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating; and Sgt. Matthew Eversmann, USA (Ret.), of "Blackhawk Down" fame.

Looking Ahead

The Virginia Society continues to open its arms in hopes of drawing in more members and promoting the importance of our nation's Revolutionary past. Whether it's participating in Revolutionary activities across the state, making much deserved contributions to like-minded organizations, or introducing creative lifetime membership offers for both juniors and adults, the Society will continue doing much work toward its growth and toward celebrating America's history.

Society leaders, especially our Membership Team, continue to keep their eyes on a five-

hundred-member goal. Society President Roberts says it best, "We have built on our successes each of the last six years, getting better and building momentum. I have no doubt that we will achieve our goal and then some."

As President Roberts was the Membership Chairman first tasked with working toward an active membership of five-hundred persons and now heads the Society, the realization of that goal will be a personal triumph for him.

And knowing the Virginian Sons, one thing is certainly true: When that goal is achieved in the near future, it will be celebrated with much pomp and circumstance! ■

Carter V. Reid is a member of the Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Virginia descended from Maj. Lewis Burwell. Mr. Reid traces his ancestry through several Colonial Governors, one of which is Gov. Alexander Spotswood, and to Jamestown under Dr. John Woodson. Mr. Reid is a past Membership Chairman and is currently Executive Secretary of the Virginia Society.



George Washington Birthday Black Tie Dinner.



Society Colors on display during the annual dinner.

LET FREEDOM RING!

Hundreds of visitors attended the event on what was a beautiful afternoon at Independence National Historical Park, where so much of the nation's Colonial, Revolutionary, and Federal-period heritage is preserved. Among park visitors, General President Terry Davenport and his family were present, along with General Vice President for Region 2 Dick Patterson.

The symbolic tapping of the Liberty Bell not only commemorates the original Thirteen Colonies, but also the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence and since then all the men and women who have given their lives in service to this country.

Revolutionary Colors

This year's event began with a luncheon at the Society Hill Sheraton, where Society President Benjamin C. Frick, Esq., introduced General President Davenport as honored guest. After the luncheon, the Society's Color Guard, under the leadership of Captain W. Steven Mark, paraded colors from the Sheraton several blocks away to Independence Square.

More than thirty-six guardsmen took part in parading and presenting the PSSR's colonial flags, which represent the regiments of members' ancestors who served the Patriot cause. As the Color Guard marched down historic Walnut Street, the display of those venerable flags made for an inspiring, patriotic moment. The parade ended with a dramatic posting of colors in Independence Square.

Following the colors, the famed one-hundred-strong Philadelphia Boys Choir & Mens Chorale, which had been contracted for a second

consecutive year, sang several patriotic favorites. As one observer later wrote in her blog, "They were just phenomenal."



The PSSR Color Guard proudly carries on tradition.

Photos by Lanny Patten

After the choir, the crowd heard inspirational and insightful remarks from Rev. Roy Almquist, rector of the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, about the meaning of the Declaration and the heritage of America:

"As we celebrate our nation's independence, we also honor one of the most remarkable documents ever created—the Declaration of Independence—along with those audacious individuals, who pledged their lives, their economic resources, and their sacred honor to underwrite their determination that these thirteen colonies were and should remain an independent nation...

"When I think of Independence Day, I do not limit my thoughts to that specific, historic event that took place in the building behind me. I also think about

what America has meant and continues to mean for millions of people all over the world. For the promise of America began in 1776, but it continues now in 2011...

"I would remind you that our national commitment to welcome those who come to us from foreign shores—once in ships, now on airplanes—must remain a precious part of our national heritage. I can give my personal testimony to the importance of welcoming the stranger; all four of my grandparents immigrated to this country from Sweden around the turn of the last century. They received that priceless

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—*Let Freedom Ring, cont'd. from page 11*

welcome, not a hand-out, but a chance to work, to build a life, and to make a contribution. Because they were received, I am an American today. And I know that many of you, sharing in this celebration, can make a similar statement.”

The pastor was followed by an entertaining impersonation of John Adams.

Descendants of the Signers

Through these presentations, the program built to a crescendo with the 2 p.m. bell ringing. At the modern Liberty Bell Center in Philadelphia, children directly descended from signers of the Declaration of Independence gathered to tap the famous old bell.

The “tappers” on hand were all junior members of The Society of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence (DSDI). The lucky tappers were: Anneke Belman, Brandan Belman, Christopher Belman, Kelsey Dobyns, Angelica Mason, Melissa Wallace, Samantha Wallace and Alexander Wahlig. The signers they represented were Samuel Chase, William Ellery, John Hart, Thomas Heyward, Jr., John Morton, Thomas Nelson, Jr., and Oliver Wolcott.

This year, two accompanying youths were newly sworn in citizens: Natalie Fame, 13, from Egypt, and T. Michael Atemie, 9, from Nigeria.

As occurred last year, the bell-tapping portion of the event was again under the leadership of Society President Frick and Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, whose brief remarks preceded the tapping.

The soaring glass walls of the Liberty Bell Center enabled people outside the building to see



*A noteworthy moment in the lives of these young Americans.
—photo by Kathryn Glynn*

the proceedings taking place inside, while persons inside couldn't help but notice the imposing vista of Independence Hall, just across the way.

The PSSR and the DSDI presented large replica Bells inscribed with the tappers' names to each of the ten tappers. Mr. Frick gave out the bells with Donald Ward and John Glynn.



Satellite LFR Programs

Throughout the original thirteen states, the PSSR selected venues with meaningful historical contexts to join the program and help celebrate. For example, in Beaufort, North Carolina, they selected the Ann Street United Methodist Church. The building dates back to 1854, and the congregation first organized in 1778.

The Reverend Eric Lindblade of Ann Street UMC told a local reporter, “We ring the bell because we appreciate the efforts of those who fight to keep this country free. It's because of our political freedom that we can live out our religious freedom.”

According to the *News-Times* newspaper, church member Greg Ehrler, a retired U.S. Marine and Vietnam veteran, rang the bell thirteen times.

Across the nation, ceremonies occur in large cities as well as in small towns, at community centers, among church congregations. From California to North Carolina, and from Massachusetts to Louisiana, each ceremony is in certain ways unique. Even in Hawaii, there are synchronized celebrations. Many of them do not directly involve the SR.

For example, in Los Altos, California, the Los Altos Lutheran Church welcomed all to its annual hand-bell choir concert at 11 a.m. (PDT) in the church amphitheater. After the ceremonial thirteen strikes of the choir's largest bell, the ensemble launched into an instrumental concert of patriotic favorites.

In Garden Grove, California, the Crystal Cathedral Carillon & Spire also let freedom ring at 11 a.m.—in this case, across the entire area. After the thirteen strikes, the 2.5-ton bourdon bell, reportedly the size of a Volkswagen Beetle, the

landmark 235-foot spire struck a forty-five-minute concert of patriotic music arranged for carillon.

On the other side of the country, War veterans were also in charge of the bell ringing in a ceremony much farther to the north. In Taunton, Massachusetts, the Taunton-based Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 57 holds the annual affair on the Taunton green.

As several disabled veterans gather together, the purpose of the bell-ringing becomes poignant: “Thank you for your service and sacrifice.”

The DAV-led program in Taunton may be one of the most recently initiated programs in the country. They completed their third consecutive year in 2011.

Illinois Freedom Bell

A replica of the Liberty Bell in Mount Morris, Illinois hangs in a gazebo in the town square, thousands gather each Independence Day at 1 p.m. (CDT). The local Chamber of Commerce boasts that it was from the early media attention given to the Mount Morris program that Let Freedom Ring caught on across the nation. The town has conducted the annual bell-ringing since 1963.

On April 30, 1963, Illinois native and future President Ronald Reagan visited Mount Morris to dedicate its small, sixteen-inch community bell.

Two years later the town installed the larger bell, and in 1971 that bell was adopted officially as the Illinois Freedom Bell. On July 4 of the following year, a plaque on the gazebo was unveiled and dedicated. The inscription by then-Governor Richard B. Ogilvie reads:

“On this occasion of the first official ringing of the [Illinois] Freedom Bell at Mount Morris, let this

message be heard by all Americans: Let us be one nation dedicated as never before to the realization of the promise of freedom for all.”

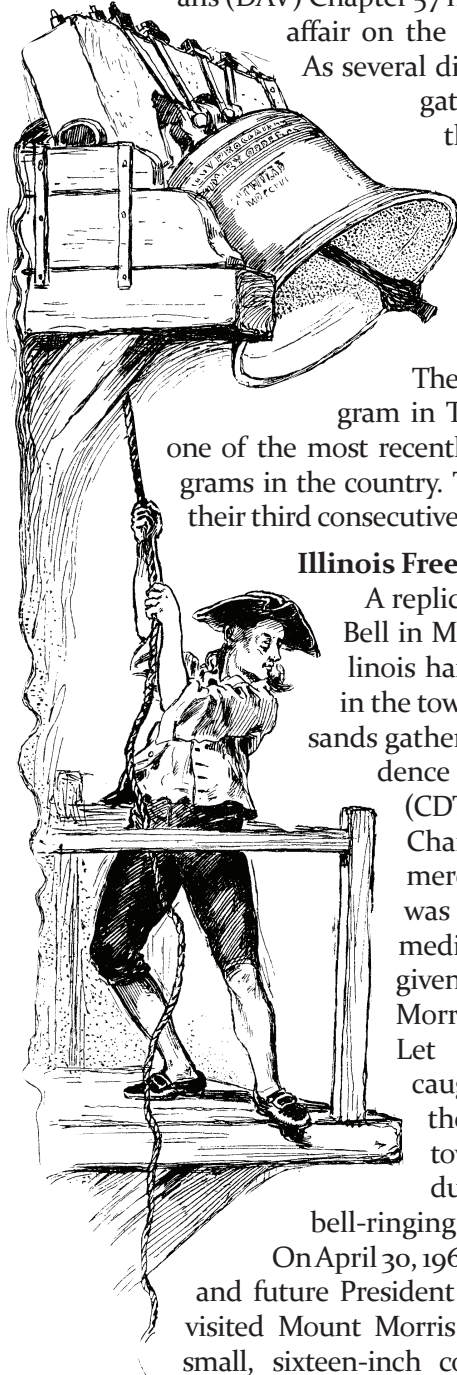
The story goes in 1984, when President Reagan was in the White House, an Illinois Representative presented him with a replica of the larger bell.

A Remote Location

Of all the “Let Freedom Ring” ceremonies that occur, one of the most hidden, out-of-the-way venues is on Blennerhasset Island, West Virginia. The island is located in the Ohio River, within West Virginia jurisdiction. The bell ringing occurs at the Blennerhasset Island Historical State Park, where it has been a tradition for the past decade. Access to the island is by ferry service.

The history of Blennerhasset Island makes it all the more interesting. Ray Swick, West Virginia State Parks Historian, says during the last stages of the Revolutionary War, Blennerhasset Island was chosen as an encampment site by General George Rogers Clark (older brother to Capt. William Clark of Lewis and Clark). “When Gen. Clark arrived in this area in August, 1871, he encamped at Blennerhasset

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The Illinois Freedom Bell in Mount Morris, Illinois.



—Let Freedom Ring,

Continued from page 13

Island,” Swick said. “Immediately after nightfall the first night, an officer and forty privates deserted. This was a horrible breach of behavior for the late eighteenth century . . . So late that same night, the other officers [Clark among them] burned the deserting officer in effigy.”

In the Revolutionary era, the island was known as Belpre, later renamed after German settler Harman Blennerhassett, who built a large Palladian home there at the turn of the nineteenth century.

Remembering the British

In New York State and in Pennsylvania, there are ceremonies that serve as reminders of the British presence during the Revolutionary period. At Saratoga National Historical Park, bells are substituted by roaring cannons and musket fire.

“If the weather is good, July 4th readings of the Declaration of Independence can bring in a very large group, relative to our park size,” said Park Ranger Bill Valosin. “We’ve seen as many as 1,100 people during the course of that day. After the assigned ranger reads the Declaration, he then reads a series of



l-r: General President Terry Davenport, Independence National Historical Park Superintendent Cindy McLeod, PSSR President Benjamin Frick, Virginia Society President Matson Roberts, and John Glynn, President-General Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

—photo by Kathryn Glynn



LFR Chairman Lief Zetterberg (left) and General Chaplain Clayton Ames (right) flank the PSSR Color Guard.

—photo by Lanny Patten



A celebration at the Betsy Ross House.

—photo courtesy of Betsy Ross House and Historic Philadelphia, Inc.

toasts commemorating the original thirteen states.”

Valosin says the cannons used at Saratoga are replicas of the British brass 6-pounder. Valosin described the 6-pounder as the workhorse of both the British and Patriot armies.

It was primarily a battlefield weapon, capable of firing a solid iron cannonball about two-thirds of a mile and could also fire grape shot or canister.

With a full charge of black powder, the 6-pounder was often used against smaller-scale fortifications. But with only a few ounces, the brass guns could be used to skip cannonballs across the ground against advancing lines of troops.

Zion’s Reformed United Church of Christ

The British influence is also felt down the road, in Allentown, Pennsylvania. It was under the floorboards of the Zion’s Reformed United Church of Christ where Patriots stowed the original Liberty Bell as the British prepared to invade Philadelphia in September 1777.

Pastor Bob Stevens, Senior Pastor of the ‘Liberty Bell Church,’ explains that the Supreme Executive Council in Philadelphia decided to remove eleven bells

from the city so as they would not fall into enemy hands. The concerned patriots covered the bells with hay and manure and transported them on wagons under the guard of two-hundred cavalry. Once they arrived in Allentown, he said, the bells were hidden under the floorboards of his church, where they remained safely until the following July, when they were taken back to Philly.

Today, visitors to Allentown may browse through the Liberty Bell Museum, located on the lower level of the church and houses the bell that hung in the original church's belfry during the Revolutionary War. Smaller than a replica, it was cast in 1769 and is still rung each July Fourth at 2 p.m. to



celebrate Let Freedom Ring and to summon the townspeople to hear the reading of the Declaration of Independence. When the old bell rings out thirteen times, it instantly connects the present with the past and transcends the moment in what is a truly inspirational and American moment. Allentown also keeps its replica of the Liberty Bell at this museum.

Pastor Stevens notes that visitors are allowed to ring it. "They won't let you do that in Philadelphia!" he boasts.

The bell in today's tower was cast in the late 1800s and was acquired after the current building was completed.

Bell-Ringing and Naturalization

According to the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services in the Department of Homeland Security, on July Fourth of this year there were nearly 10,000 persons across the country who became naturalized citizens among some fifty citizenship ceremonies. If the entire holiday weekend is considered, the numbers jump to 25,000 new citizens participating in as many as three-hundred ceremonies.

At the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia, a special naturalization ceremony was conducted for thirteen children. After they were sworn in, each of the new citizens paired with a member of the Children of the American Revolution and tolled the bell.

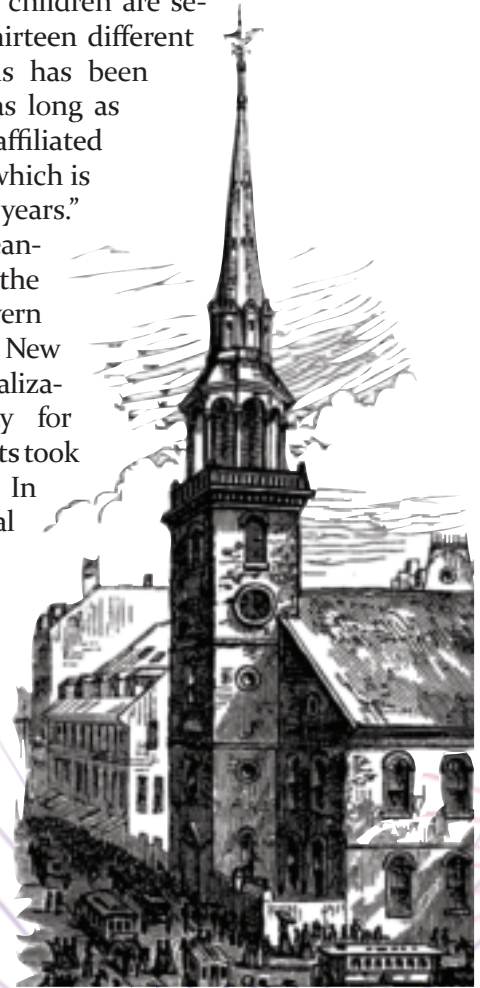
"It is a very well-attended and well-loved Independence Day tradition at the Betsy Ross House," said Heather Kincade, a public relations consultant for Historic Philadelphia, Inc. "Thirteen children are selected from thirteen different countries. This has been going on for as long as I have been affiliated with the site, which is more than ten years."

In the meanwhile, at the Fraunces Tavern Museum in New York, a naturalization ceremony for thirty-five adults took place on July 1. In an emotional and patriotic event led by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) personnel, the group recited the Oath of Allegiance and waved American flags.

NYSR President Don Westervelt told them that it was on those same floors they were standing on that during the 1770s, many British subjects developed their patriotism and plotted a revolution. He also told them George Washington had given a heartfelt and tearful farewell to his Continental Army officers at the Tavern in 1783.

A naturalization ceremony held at Fraunces Tavern Museum "just seemed to make sense," reported Museum Curator Jessica Baldwin. "Hugs, handshakes, and tears were once again seen at Fraunces Tavern as we celebrated the citizenship of thirty-five new Americans." ■

—compiled by editor; PSSR text and photos submitted by Lanny Patten





In Tennessee, multiple Let Freedom Ring celebrations occur each year, and Society members participate in each one. The ceremonies take place in Morristown; in Nashville, on the grounds of the State Capitol; and in East Tennessee, at the Museum of Appalachia.

At the latter venue, the ceremony also features a pole-raising event and a ‘firing of the anvils.’

Back in the days before fireworks, anvil shooting was a fairly common way that rural folks celebrated special events. They “shot the anvil” to celebrate Independence Day, Christmas, or New Year’s—sometimes for even birthdays or weddings.

Today, the art of ‘anvil shooting’ is all but lost. Across the nation as a whole, especially in urban and suburban areas, the practice is largely forgotten (not to mention outlawed). And yet, this traditional aspect of Americana still occurs in a few remote areas.

Every July Fourth, for the past thirty years, the Museum of Appalachia has ‘fired the anvils’ as

part of its popular and memorable celebration of American independence.

Several Factors Involved

Anvil shooting, a.k.a. anvil firing, or anvil launching, is the practice of blowing an anvil into the air by detonating black powder underneath it. How high it goes is a matter of art, science, luck, and, if you will, the grace of God.

Typically, two anvils are involved: one is placed upside-down and is used as the base, on top of which the other is placed. Prior to placing the ‘flier’ on top of the base, black powder is poured into the depression in the under side of the base anvil. A long fuse is often used to ignite the powder.

“We like to start things off conservatively,” said Elaine Irwin Meyer, president of the Museum. “In the morning, we’ll launch it maybe twenty to twenty-five feet in the air, but by the last shoot of the day it gets up to maybe 100–150 feet.

“The earth literally shakes, and folks have told us the explosion can be heard from as far away as fifteen miles away,” she said.

John Rice Irwin

For the past seven years, the Anderson County—John Rice Irwin Chapter of the Tennessee Society, Sons of the Revolution has participated in the annual Independence Day celebrations at the Museum. Mrs. Meyer's father, now an octogenarian, has been a member of the Tennessee Society for twenty-six years.

"The chapter was named after John Rice Irwin to honor him, because of his dedication to preserving the history of East Tennessee," said Dr. William J. Acuff, longtime Society member. "At the time of the Anderson County Chapter's formation, I was President of the Tennessee Society and John was also a member."



Dr. William J. Acuff

The Museum of Appalachia, founded in 1969, now portrays an authentic mountain farm/village with some three-dozen historic log structures, which are filled with thousands of authentic Appalachian artifacts.

It took Mr. Irwin his entire adult life to amass such an amazing collection from the mountain people around him. He did it piece-by-piece, story-by-story. He once wrote that what most interested him about collecting was the human connection (memories) behind each artifact.

Mr. Irwin's legacy to the region and the state is grand; his imprint in terms of collecting and preserving Appalachian culture is indelible. Numerous articles have been published about his work and his life, including in the *National Geographic*, the *Smithsonian* and *Southern Living*.

"The Let Freedom Ring Ceremony on the Fourth of July was a perfect fit for the Museum," boasted Dr. Acuff. "The Museum already had a Liberty Bell, as well as other patriotic ceremonies taking place there."

The Tennessee Society helped create and exhibit of artifacts entitled, "Revolutionary War in the South," which is housed in the Museum's Hall of Fame building.

Bell-ringing and pole-raising

Thanks to the involvement of the Sons, the Museum now offers youngsters the chance to participate in bell-ringing and pole-raising during Independence Day. The Declaration of Independence is read aloud, too. Another manner of the Sons' involvement is Lynn Fox's flag

presentation, always of interest to everyone.

To assist with the bell ringing and other events, Chapter members choose eager children from the crowd. "The kids just love tapping the bell," said Mrs. Meyer. "They think it's great. They take it very seriously."



Raising a Liberty Pole on the grounds of the Museum of Appalachia.

By their typical reaction, the children also love the old-fashioned pole-raising. Chapter members teach them that back when the nation was a group of thirteen English colonies, raising the pole was a means of expressing dissatisfaction with the English government.

In addition to the special events on the Fourth, the Museum of Appalachia throughout the year hosts demonstrations of pioneer activities including rail-splitting, basket-making, whittling, quilting, spinning, blacksmithing, and "Betsy Ross" sewing the nation's first flag.

Mr. Irwin recently stepped down from the Museum board and from active management, but he remains on the staff as a consultant. Elaine is firmly in charge and looking ahead to the future. In keeping with her father's vision, she and the board are developing long range plans to ensure the organization's continued growth.

In 2003, the Museum was converted to a 501(c)(3) corporation to ensure its long-term sustainability. In May of 2007, it was accepted into the Smithsonian Institution's Affiliations Program. ■

—Editor



Jerry Mastin helps bell ringers at the Museum of Appalachia. —photos courtesy Museum of Appalachia



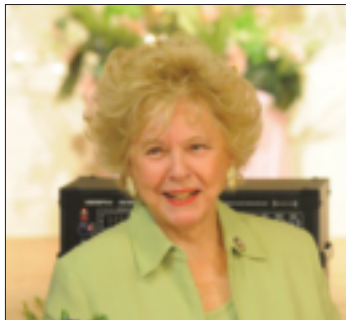
CALIFORNIA



Robert "Buzz" Patterson



Society President Doug Boyd, Sr., far right, holds the California Society's youngest member, Patrick Douglas Conrad.



Floretta Lauber

er the President went. In addition, Col. Patterson was operational commander for all military units assigned to the White House, to include Air Force One, Marine One, Camp David, White House Transportation Agency and White House Mess.

Enthusiasm exceeded room capacity on Saturday, July 9, 2011 as over fifty California SR Members, DAR Members and Members of the Cincinnati heard an outstanding address by Lt. Col. Buzz Patterson, a retired career Air Force pilot.

Originally scheduled for the chapter's April meeting, he was called away by his airline employer to handle an emergency flight.

The Society rescheduled his appearance for July.

Col. Patterson was selected to carry the "nuclear football" for President Bill Clinton for two years, during which time he resided in the White House and traveled wherever

During his presentation, Col. Patterson described some previously unrevealed private details of life with the Clintons and gave a sobering warning regarding America's increasing lack of military preparedness in dealing with Islamic radicalism and the expansion of Chinese military might.

Patterson is the author of two *New York Times* bestsellers: *Reckless Disregard*, a book about the Clinton years; and *Conduct Unbecoming*, which details how America's military is being placed in a dangerous situation today by current foreign policy maneuvers.

Other Developments

In other news, California Society President Doug Boyd, Sr., proudly presented a Life Membership certificate to his grandson and California's youngest SR member, fifteen-month-old Patrick Douglas Conrad. Also attending were Patrick's twin sister and future DAR member Shannon Elizabeth Conrad, parents Garrett Conrad and DAR Member Kathryn Boyd Conrad, and SR Life Member Doug Boyd, Jr.

Other new members receiving certificates were Lee Ashton Chase, Jr. and Steven Hawley Chase, whose maternal grandfather, Frank Russell Henry (1900-1980) became a member in 1930.

Notables attending the luncheon were General Vice President for Region 6 Dr. Charles B. Witt, Jr., MD, and Col. Roger McGrath, noted author and historian. Another special guest was Floretta Lauber, great-granddaughter to George Washington Peachy, one of the California Society's historic 'First Sons' of Revolutionary War veterans. (See related vignette, p. 24)

Mrs. Lauber was presented a copy of the Society's Centennial Register, a 1,300-page book recounting the first 100 years of the California Sons of the Revolution, by President Boyd and President Emeritus Rick Breithaupt. Mrs. Lauber was elected in 1976 as the first female mayor of the City of Arcadia, California, and today she maintains a calendar full of civic events and charity work.

Looking ahead, on October 22, 2011, the California SR will be honored by a visit from Benjamin Franklin (famous re-enactor Arthur Ludwick). On January 28, 2012, the California Society is looking forward to an official visit by Terry Davenport, who was elected to his post at the 2009 Triennial held in the Los Angeles area.

—text and photos submitted by Doug Boyd, Sr., and Rick Breithaupt

CONNECTICUT



Tomb of Benjamin Tallmadge

As a result of the increased interest for the Sons of the Revolution in the state of Connecticut, a member of the Society there recently volunteered to give a bit of tender loving care to an SR plaque on the tomb of Revolutionary War hero Benjamin Tallmadge.

In the spring of the year, Ken Buckbee and his companion, Judey Sawyer, a member of the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter of the DAR, had been donating time and energy to shaping up the gravestones in the Wolcott and Tallmadge plots in East Cemetery in Litchfield, Conn., for the upcoming Independence Day ceremony there.



Before and after the cleaning of the tomb's SR plaque.

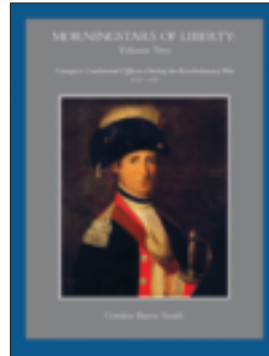
“What we hadn’t cleaned on the Tallmadge tomb at the time was an old bronze SR plaque affixed to the tomb,” Mr. Buckbee explained. “We were hesitant to clean it for fear of harming the tomb.”

Since that time, two things happened. The couple perfected a method for cleaning bronze markers and, inspired by a previous *Drumbeat* article featuring the Connecticut Society, they were motivated to return to the cemetery. “We successfully cleaned the SR plaque in late August,” Buckbee said. “After reading the two great articles in the Summer 2011 issue of *Drumbeat* magazine, I decided that there was something that needed to be done for the SR.”

*—text submitted by Chris Nichols;
photos by Ken Buckbee*



GEORGIA



Morningstars of Liberty, Volume 2, just released by General Historian Gordon B. Smith.



The General Nathanael Greene Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Georgia held the Annual Greene Birthday Luncheon on August 20 at the Capital City Club, Brookhaven in Atlanta. Before the proceedings began, a Chapter Board Meeting took place in the Hunt Room of the Capital City Club.



Members and guests pause with author and speaker Charles F. Price (far right).

Twenty-six chapter members and officers, three guests/prospective members, three State Society officers and guest speaker Charles F. Price attended the luncheon meeting. Everyone enjoyed the renowned Capital City Club “Taste of the South” buffet.

President Bob Evans called the meeting to order, followed by the procession of the Chapter flags. Guyton McCall, Chaplain, gave the Invocation. Bill Daugeette, 1st Vice President, led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by “The Purpose of the Society” read by Secretary Harold Ford.

Awards Committee Chairman and 2nd Vice President Ken Zelif, Jr., then presented an initiative by the Chapter that came in response to

GEORGIA, Cont'd.

members' requests for an opportunity to "Keep Alive the Spirit of 1776" throughout the year. To answer the request, the Chapter purchased a number of beautifully framed portraits of George Washington by Rembrandt Peale. The portrait is Rembrandt's "Porthole Portrait," which individual members may purchase and give to school(s) in Georgia.

In other developments, Registrar Paul East reported on the Jr. Membership and Legacy programs and the opportunity for current members to enroll their sons or grandsons for future membership in the Sons of the Revolution.

Following the business items, President Evans introduced the luncheon's guest speaker, author Charles F. Price of Burnville, North Carolina. Mr. Price presented a marvelous talk on "Nathanael Greene: The Forgotten Year." At the conclusion of the meeting, the writer presented each member with a personally autographed copy of his novel, *Nor the Battle to the Strong*.

Ron Freeman, Georgia State Society Secretary, presented an update on State Society activities, Chaplain McCall gave the Benediction, and President Evans presented the 2012-2013 Yearbooks before adjourning the meeting.

The next meeting of the Chapter will be on March 17, 2012, a black-tie evening affair with wives at the Ansley Golf Club in Atlanta.

—text and photos submitted by Bob Evans

The Sons of the Revolution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, including General Vice President for Region 1 Henry N. McCarl, joined with members of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and other groups on June 19, 2011, to celebrate the 236th Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Other participants included the USS Constitution Color Guard, the Charlestown High School MA 761st Air Force JROTC, and the Charlestown Militia Company 1775, Colonel Thomas Gardner Regiment.

The annual activities kick off with an ecumenical service of remembrance at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church at 9 a.m., officiated by the Rev. Daniel J. Mahoney. Afterward, a procession takes place from the church down Bunker Hill Street to the monument, where a number of patriotic exercises take place. Various groups participate in the parade, including local marching bands and other musical groups; current and past military personnel; re-enactment groups, especially those connected to the Siege of Boston; sports groups; emergency-response teams, as well as floats sponsored by local businesses.

At the close of the ceremony, patriotic societies lay wreaths and re-enactors fire a musket salute at the gates of the park. The event is sponsored by the James W. Conway-Bunker Hill Post 26 of the American Legion, in cooperation with the Bunker Hill Monument Association and the Boston National Historical Park.

—text and photo submitted by James R. Klim

MASSACHUSETTS



Patriotic Americans gather to celebrate the Battle of Bunker-Hill, including Timothy M. Cooper, the Commanding Officer of the USS Constitution, and the ship's Color Guard.

MISSOURI

New Society officers are in the process of being appointed, due to the resignation of the previous Missouri Society officers and board of managers.

The Executive Committee was aware that certain members of the Missouri Society were disgruntled because of issues which allegedly occurred prior to and during the 2009 Glendale, California Triennial.

Efforts to reconcile their concerns were rejected. Contact Region 5 General Vice President Robert D. Rati at (317) 571-9166 with questions. He may also be reached via email, ratisr@prodigy.net.

NEW YORK



New citizens being naturalized at Fraunces Tavern.
—photo courtesy of SRNY

Celebrating Independence and Citizenship

Hugs, handshakes, and tears were once again seen at Fraunces Tavern as America welcomed thirty-five of its newest citizens in a naturalization ceremony that took place in the Davis Center/Flag Gallery on Friday, July 1, 2011.

In an emotional and patriotic ceremony led by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officials, all thirty-five new citizens waved American flags as they were led in reciting the Oath of Allegiance. The ceremony's keynote speaker was Society President Donald Westervelt, Esq. He told the story of America and paid high regard to all those who have sacrificed their lives to protect and defend this great country throughout its history.

For her part, in a sign of appreciation to all the new citizens, Museum Curator Jessica Baldwin offered all of them one-year Family Memberships to the Museum.

The Fraunces Tavern Museum was an obvious location for a naturalization ceremony, even more during the anniversary weekend of the nation's independence. It was in Fraunces Tavern where many British colonists developed their patriotism for the new land and plotted a revolution against the Crown. It was also there in 1783 that America's first leader, George Washington, bid a heartfelt farewell to his officers before he 'retired' to private life at Mount Vernon.

—by Jessica Baldwin

Beaudoin Receives 2011 Knox Trophy Award

West Point Cadet Marc C. Beaudoin, the son of Michael and Mary Beaudoin, of Chelsea, Maine, was named recipient of the 2011 Knox Trophy Award. The Knox Trophy Award, presented by the New York Society, is reserved for the West Point graduate ranking highest for military efficiency. The SRNY award is the oldest annual award given to a graduating cadet at West Point.



Marc C. Beaudoin.

—photo courtesy of
West Point Academy

An international history major, Cadet Beaudoin carried a 4.13 GPA into his senior year and was selected as First Captain of the U.S. Military Academy's Corps of Cadets for the 2010–2011 academic year. First Captain is the highest position in the cadet chain-of-command at West Point. Not only did he excel in academics, his athletic ability was equally impressive. During his last two years in high school, he lettered in five sports and captained four teams.

—Editor

9th Annual Walking Tour Review

This year on July Fourth, a New York growing tradition continued as James Kaplan gave his annual nighttime walking tour of Revolutionary-era New York, from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. For the ninth year in a row, Mr. Kaplan led a large audience of history buffs through the famous avenues and narrow streets of Lower Manhattan, visiting significant sites of the city's colonial and Revolutionary past. As participant Jay Hochberg wrote on the American Creation blog:

"Why at two o'clock in the morning? That is self-evident upon finding the quietude afforded only in the middle of the night. This tour would not be possible at 2 p.m., even on a major holiday. The traffic would kill at least one of us, and the noise of New York would render Mr. Kaplan and his bullhorn inaudible. This is not to say the place is a ghost town; there is plenty of activity at that hour. New York is 'The City That Never Sleeps,' as Citibank used to say. There are probing passersby and curious cops and cabbies, all pausing at the sight of us, asking what's going on. 'A walking tour,' I offered at least four times."

Finding themselves in front of Fraunces Tavern by 6 a.m., the weary walkers were pleased to see the Tavern's restaurant open its doors to offer them a hearty breakfast. For more detail of Mr. Kaplan's tour, visit <http://americancreation.blogspot.com/>

—by Jennifer Patton

NEW YORK, Cont'd.

Anthony Wellman Moves On

Effective September 1, 2011, Anthony Wellman resigned his position as Communications Director of the Fraunces Tavern Museum to become a consultant. He will continue for a while as Educational Services Committee Chairman at the SRNY. Future media and public relations inquiries may be directed to Museum Curator Jessica Baldwin or to Education Director Jennifer Patton. Meanwhile, Margaret O'Shaughnessy continues as SRNY Administrator.

"It's been a great experience these past two-and-a-half years, and I've enjoyed every minute of it but the time has come for me to return to focusing on my consulting business," Mr. Wellman said. During his tenure, Mr. Wellman greatly assisted in the planning and execution of Museum exhibits such as the Magna Charta, served as emcee at several Society functions, and helped facilitate the installation and coordination of a new management team at the Fraunces Tavern Restaurant.

-Editor

NORTH CAROLINA



Society President Lambert welcomes the NSSAR to North Carolina.

—photo credit:
Lt. Cmdr Robert Yankle

Society President Jeffrey Lambert was an honored guest of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) as they met in Winston-Salem, N.C., for the organization's 121st Congress held July 8-13, 2011. He extended official greetings on behalf of the North Carolina Society of the Sons of the Revolution.

By attending that event, President Lambert said he was able to learn a considerable amount of useful tips for planning the 2015 Triennial of the GSSR, which is to be held in North Carolina.

The State Society's next function will be the Yorktown Victory Luncheon in late October in Pinehurst, N.C.

-submitted by Jeffrey Lambert

SOUTH CAROLINA

Private-Public Cooperation at Thomson Park

Members of the South Carolina Sons of the Revolution were present for the dedication of a park site on federal land. Nearly 250 persons



The new William "Danger" Thomson Park.

gathered on Saturday, June 18, 2011, for the dedication ceremony of the William "Danger" Thomson Park, at the northeast end of Sullivan's Island, S.C., on the tip of the peninsula along Breach Inlet.



Doug MacIntyre, chair of Thomson Park and board member of the Fort Sumter-Fort Moultrie Historical Trust.



A sizable crowd turns out for the dedication ceremony.

The purpose of the interpretive park is to commemorate the all-important (but nearly forgotten) action that occurred there as part of the Battle of Sullivan's Island in the American Revolution, which was a two-pronged attack by the British in June 1776—before the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

In a unique twist of cooperation and patriotism between the public and private sectors, Doug MacIntyre, chair of Thomson Park and board member of the Fort Sumter-Fort

Moultrie Historical Trust, sought and got federal permission to organize private funding for three informative exhibits (placards) on the peninsula's end. Additionally, the project called for decorative landscaping and the installation of a time-period display of palmetto logs, which the patriots used as palisades against British gunfire.



Left, Ellie Fletcher, 7th great-granddaughter of Col. Thomson; right, Colonel William "Danger" Thomson.

While students of history often learn about the British attack on Fort Sullivan (renamed Fort Moultrie), they often don't learn about the simultaneous attack at Breach Inlet. Just as Colonel William Moultrie and 435 men inside Fort Sullivan heroically withstood and defeated the British navy's bombardment, so Colonel William "Danger" Thomson and some 780 men from the backcountry, including Native Americans, skillfully turned back the British attack at Breach Inlet.

"They were simultaneous attacks. If Thomson hadn't done his job and the British were able to come across the inlet, the fort would have fallen and the battle would have been lost," MacIntyre told the *Charleston Mercury* newspaper. The patriot defenders fired an 18-pounder into the water at the Inlet, where the British were trying to cross. "You can imagine what the men in their boats did: they scattered, and they elected to retreat. It was over."

Thomson's troops affectionately called him "Danger" in tribute to his bravery and daring in battle. Due to the victories at this battle, Charleston remained out of British control for the next four years, until 1780.

As part of the ceremony, the seventh great-granddaughter of Col. Thomson, nine-year-old Ellie Fletcher, led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance. David Ruewer, publisher of *Patriots of the American Revolution* magazine, gave an inspiring presentation as Col. Thomson.

The Battle of Williamson's Plantation (Huck's Defeat)

A few days following July Fourth, members of the SR-SC toured the grounds of the Battle of Williamson's Plantation in observance of the battle's 231st anniversary. The destruction of Huck's Loyalist force at Williamson's Plantation in observance of the battle's 231st anniversary. The destruction of Huck's Loyalist force on July 12, 1780, helped revive the morale of the people in South Carolina just when British victory seemed inevitable. It served as a rallying point for the backcountry Whigs, and set into motion a series of significant events leading up to the larger Patriot victories at King's Mountain in October 1780 and at Cowpens in January 1781, and to British surrender at Yorktown in October 1781.

Huck's Defeat has been described as "a major turning point in the American Revolution in South Carolina." It was the first of more than thirty-five important battles in South Carolina in late 1780 and early 1781, all but five of which were victories for the Patriot cause.

Board of Managers Report

At the last SRSC BOM meeting, Society President Chuck Swoope informed members that plans were on-task regarding the spreading of the message of remembering our nation's forefathers at patriotic events throughout South Carolina. "We are exceeding our goals to be present at gatherings which celebrate the contributions of our patriot ancestors," he reported.

Vice President Jeff Jordan reported that the Society's new website, www.SRSC1776.com, was receiving positive feedback and contributing to recruitment efforts. He said SR members from New Jersey who planned to retire to South Carolina had looked at the site and expressed an interest. Likewise, businessmen transferring from Georgia to South Carolina had also expressed an interest in joining, after looking at the site.

A planned Society fundraiser featuring a silent auction has evolved into a letter-writing campaign to solicit funds from members to support the Society's effort to provide booklets of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution to schoolchildren and to organized boys' and girls' clubs. The Society also has prioritized implementing a scholarship program for members of the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and to construct a memorial in Charleston celebrating the Siege of Charleston.

—text and photos submitted by Jeff Jordan;
additional compilation by editor

TENNESSEE

Aside from hosting Let Freedom Ring ceremonies in Nashville, Morristown, and at the Museum of Appalachia in Anderson County (see related story, pp. 17–18), Tennessee is famous for holding the earliest Fourth of July parade in the country. It begins at midnight each year in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, in the Smoky Mountains, attracting as many as 100,000 spectators. The annual parade is part of a weekend festival to honor the Armed Forces and salute the United States.

Members of the General Nathaniel Greene and the John Rice Irwin chapters added a special flair this year at the 36th annual Fourth of July Midnight Parade. Society member Lynn Fox organized the SR's participation in the parade with musket shoots. Every year he and fellow member Jerry Mastin travel to Gatlinburg the day before to present Revolutionary-era demonstrations in period dress.

After the midnight parade, as dawn was breaking, members of the John Rice Irwin chapter quickly scooted back home for the July Fourth event held at the Museum of Appalachia later that day.

Meanwhile, members of the Roane County Chapter of the Tennessee Society were on hand for the 135th Annual July Fourth celebration at Kingston City Park in Kingston. The day featured live music,



Midnight parade in Gatlinburg, Tennessee starts off with a bang.
—photo courtesy Tenn. Society



Let Freedom Ring in Morristown.
—photo courtesy David Rutherford



Ceremony at State Capitol.
—courtesy David Whaley

barefoot water skiing, raft races, watermelon-eating contests, a gun salute, and fireworks at dusk.

The State Society later enjoyed its summer “picnic” meeting on July 23rd at the Museum of Appalachia. New members were inducted and all were served a catered luncheon. Musical guests James “Hartsell” Garland and Chad Bogart played traditional Appalachian music on instruments made of home-grown gourds. They are reportedly the only duo in the country that plays music on such garden-variety instrumentation.

—submitted by David Whaley

VIRGINIA

Conducting their annual meeting under May blue skies at The Virginia House, a 16th century manor house overlooking the James River, the Virginia Society (VSSR) thanked outgoing Society President Thomas G. Vance and his fellow officers for a term well served.

In July, newly installed Society President Matson Roberts and his family visited Philadelphia for the Fourth of July festivities. While there, they represented the Society of Virginia at the annual meeting of the Decendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence's (DSDI), the Pennsylvania Society Color Guard parade, and the annual “Bell Tapping Ceremony” of the Liberty Bell. The Bell Tapping Ceremony is sponsored by the DSDI and organized by the PSSR.

President Roberts said of the festivities: “It was a wonderful experience to participate in these events and pay tribute to our Founding Fathers. I was proud to share the day with multiple ancestral organizations, all with a similar purpose.”

Later in the summer, the Society continued its time-honored tradition of annually awarding scholarships to deserving high school students. The students awarded in 2011 were: Ellen M. Geho (James Madison University), Emily K. Hardy (Washington and Lee University), Clyde W. Harrelson (Carr Art and Design University), Meriwether W. Mauck (James Madison University), and Matson L. Roberts, Jr., (The University of Virginia).

The Society's scholarship program dates back to 1902, when one deserving student was awarded a prize of \$25.00 in gold. ■

—submitted by Carter Reid

Flintlock & Powderhorn

ARTICLES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

Patriot Vignettes

Jesse Allen

Jesse Allen, a native of Morristown, New Jersey, was born in 1754 and died on June 24, 1824, in his seventieth year. He enlisted in the Continental Army early and served throughout the war. He joined David Abeel's militia company of the New York Continentals in 1775 and was in the expedition into Canada under Gen. Richard Montgomery.

Allen served as a private and a non-commissioned officer in many engagements and Indian skirmishes throughout the war. He was said to have been standing within a few feet of Gen. Montgomery when that officer fell at Quebec. He later served in the company of Capt. Jacobus S. Bruyn, under Col. James Clinton. After the war, Jesse married

and settled on the Cauterskill Creek, near the town of Catskill, New York, with his wife, Elizabeth Eiklor.

Elizabeth survived her husband by twenty years, living until September 6, 1845, when she was ninety years old. Both are buried at Pond Hill Cemetery, Bradford County, Pennsylvania.

The couple had multiple children, of which all but two survived their mother's death: William (the second), Peter, Sarah, Andrew, Mary, Betsy, John, Chloe, Phoebe, and David. An earlier son, Ebenezer, died young. The couple's first child, also named William, drowned in infancy in the Cauterskill Creek.

—text and photos submitted by John K. Lee



*"The Death of General Montgomery in the Attack on Quebec,"
by John Trumball, 1786*

Benjamin Peachy

Benjamin Peachy was born December 26, 1756, in Salem County, New Jersey, and died 1835–1837, in Washington, Indiana. During the Revolutionary War, Benjamin first enlisted in March of 1777 and served six months in a company under the command of Lt. David Moore of the 3rd Continental Artillery. He was honorably discharged in the fall of that year.

In the spring of 1778 he was enlisted, for a nine month tour, by a Captain Beasley into Israel Shreve's 2nd New Jersey Regiment of the Continental Line. Shortly after his enlistment he joined Captain John Noble Cumming's Company at Mount Holly, N.J., and was later transferred to an artillery unit under the command of a Captain Wooley. He participated in the Battle of Monmouth in June of '78 and was honorably discharged about a year later.

Following the completion of his first enlistment, Peachy re-enlisted the same year in the 2nd New Jersey Regiment. He was involved in several skirmishes, including the Battle of Connecticut Farms and the Battle of Springfield, which caused the British to retreat back to Elizabethtown. He was also involved in an engagement at Bergen Point, N.J., where his unit captured a block house and took several prisoners.

Near the end of his second enlistment, his career was further distinguished as a guard present at the execution of the British spy Major John Andre at Tappan, New York, on October 2, 1780. Thereafter, he was discharged a second time and returned to his home in southern New Jersey.

In addition to his service in the Continental Army, he completed four or five short tours of duty with his Militia, serving under the command of Captain Elijah Davis in the First Battalion of Cumberland



'First Son' George Washington Peachy

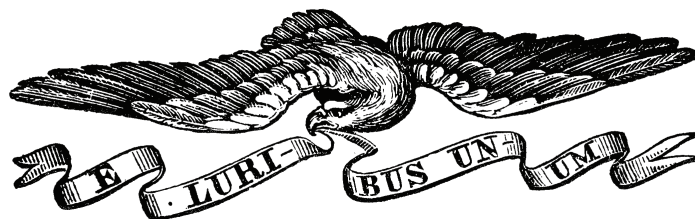
County. In the mid-1830s Benjamin died and is buried at Bethany Cemetery, near Washington, Indiana.

After the war, Benjamin married twice. With his second wife, Elizabeth Broadus, he had two children, including a son named George Washington Peachy. Following her husband's death in the 1830s, Elizabeth went to live with relatives in Ohio but arranged to have her son apprentice with a man named James Finney in Princeton, Indiana, to learn the trade of harness and saddle-making.

George Washington Peachy would grow up, marry, move himself and his family out to California, and by the 1880s would command an extensive manufacturing business of saddles, harnesses, and leather goods in Los Angeles.

In 1894 he joined this organization, the Sons of the Revolution, and was an 'original Son' in the California Society. ■

*—Text and photo submitted by
Doug Boyd, Sr., and Rick Breithaupt*



A New Look at Chief Justice John Marshall

By Robert G. Natelson

Robert G. Natelson is Senior Fellow in Constitutional Jurisprudence at Colorado's Independence Institute, the Montana Policy Institute, and Arizona's Goldwater Institute. He is a former tenured law professor of the University of Montana law faculty, where he taught, among other subjects, Constitutional Law, Constitutional History, Advanced Constitutional Law, and First Amendment.

John Marshall, the fourth chief justice of the United States Supreme Court, is generally conceded to be the greatest chief justice in U.S. history. He served from the time of his appointment by President John Adams (1801) until his death in 1835.

It is common to cloth great men with myths, and this is true of Marshall as well. One of the most enduring myths about Marshall was that he was a judicial activist who usurped power for himself and for his court. Another myth is that Marshall's decisions justified constitutionally the huge expansion of federal power that occurred during the twentieth century.

For example, it is often said that:

- In his decision in *Marbury v. Madison* (1803), Marshall invented the doctrine of judicial review. He thereby assumed for his court the prerogative of declaring laws contrary to the Constitution to be void. Thus, the Supreme Court became much more potent than the Founders intended.

- In *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819), Marshall turned the Necessary and Proper Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 18) into a vast reservoir of congressional power, thereby giving Congress authority to regulate the entire economy.

- In *Gibbons v. Ogden* (1824), Marshall further laid the foundation of the regulatory state by, in the words of Justice Robert Jackson (*Wickard v. Filburn*, 1942), "describ[ing] the Federal commerce power with a breadth never yet exceeded."

Yet all of these claims are flatly false.



John Marshall, painted by Henry Inman, 1832

Declaring Laws Void

Marshall did not "invent" judicial review. On the contrary, when Marshall announced the unanimous court decision in *Marbury*, judicial review already was a well-accepted aspect of American law. Before the Declaration of Independence in 1776, laws of the American colonies were understood to be void if they violated Magna Carta or the colonial charters. After Independence, state courts could strike down state laws that violated state constitutions.

Indeed, one distinguished researcher, William Michael Treanor of Fordham University School of Law, noted over thirty reported cases issued in which American tribunals applied or recognized the rule of judicial review. This would have been after the Declaration of Independence and prior to *Marbury*.

Moreover, during the debates over the ratification of the Constitution, both those favoring and those opposing the document stated that the courts should void unconstitutional laws. Chief Justice Marshall knew this, because at the Virginia ratifying convention fifteen years earlier, he had said the same thing.

Nor is it true that Marshall used judicial review to aggrandize the power of his own court. After *Marbury*, Marshall never voided a federal statute as unconstitutional in his remaining 32 years on the bench.

Vast Federal Power?

The claim that Marshall stretched the Necessary and Proper Clause in *McCulloch v. Maryland* is also untrue. Marshall was a consummate lawyer who

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–*Chief Justice Marshall, cont'd. from page 27*

knew the jurisprudence of his time exceedingly well. Under then-existing law, the Necessary and Proper Clause was not a grant of power; it was a direction for reading federal authority in accordance with certain widely-understood rules. In *McCulloch*, Marshall merely applied those rules to a difficult case.

It also is asserted that Marshall interpreted the federal government's Commerce Power in *Gibbons v. Ogden* exceedingly broadly—that under his formulation Congress to regulate any economic activity “substantially affecting” interstate commerce. In modern times, the U.S. Supreme Court has cited *Gibbons* to uphold congressional regulation of agriculture, mining, manufacturing, health care, insurance, medical marijuana, and almost every other aspect of the American economy.

But this view of *Gibbons* also is profoundly wrong. The central ruling of *Gibbons* was that the authority of Congress “to regulate Commerce . . . among the several States” included the power to regulate navigation.

When you read the law books of the time, you find that this ruling was certainly correct. Marshall also pointed out that sometimes commerce (including navigation) within state boundaries might be so tied up with commerce “among the several States” that Congress could regulate it, which was also correct under the law of his era.

Marshall did *not* say that Congress could govern other aspects of the economy. On the contrary, he listed various regulations reserved exclusively for the states, including “health laws of every description.” Those who use the *Gibbons* decision to argue that Congress may supervise the entire American economy are twisting some of Marshall's words and omitting others.

Why did the Founders make the decision to deny the federal government control over most aspects of American life? In other words, why did they decide that most regulations were for the states, not Congress, to make?

The decision was not reached easily. At the Constitutional Convention of 1787, most delegates favored a nearly unlimited central government. They would have subordinated the states to a level just above that of counties in England.

After vigorous debates, the delegates ended up with an enumeration (list) of powers the federal

government would have, and reserving all else to the states. Of course, the Framers recognized that human activities are highly intertwined, but they chose to decentralize power in the interests of better government and human liberty.

In the economic realm, they split governance between Congress and the states. Congress could regulate foreign, interstate, and Indian commerce, and a few other items, such as patents, copyrights, and bankruptcies. The states would control agriculture, manufacturing, health matters, social services, and the rest. As a leading Founder himself, John Marshall understood all of this.

An Image Debunked

Why is Marshall so often painted as an activist? There are at least four reasons: First, few writers

on constitutional law today have studied the general jurisprudence of Marshall's era, so they don't understand much of his legal language. When Marshall failed to cite a lot of prior authority, some of those writers assume he was making things up. Second, few commentators seem to understand that key words sometimes had different

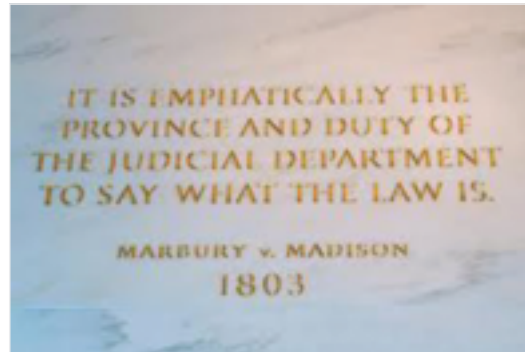
meanings than they do today.

Third, when students read cases such as *Marbury*, *McCulloch*, and *Gibbons*, they seldom are assigned the entire opinions, which are quite lengthy. Instead they read edited versions, which often omit explanatory and qualifying language.

Finally, throughout the years many people have had personal reasons for promoting the image of Marshall as a big-government judicial activist. In Marshall's day, his political opponent Thomas Jefferson (a believer in small government) portrayed Marshall that way. More recently, judges and law professors advocating big government have enlisted him to promote their own constitutional agendas.

The truth is that Marshall was a talented and careful judge who effectively applied the Constitution in a common-sense way and in the manner that was understood by the American public at the time it was ratified. That is the core of his greatness. ■

Mr. Natelson is co-author of a more detailed article on Chief Justice Marshall which appears in the June 2011 issue of Engage, the journal of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies. His views may be read on his Constitution blog, appearing on the Independence Institute website, <http://constitution.izi.org>.



Pre-dating the Albany Plan: “The People of the Longhouse”

By David W. Swafford

“Happiness is more generally and equally diffus’d among Savages than in civilized societies. No European who has tasted savage life can afterwards bear to live in our societies.”

—Benjamin Franklin, 1770

In North America, for centuries prior to the arrival of the English, great confederacies of Native Americans (First Nations) had been established to maintain peace and sovereignty amongst themselves in the broadest sense. These confederacies—absent firearms and horses—formed the prevailing Order of the New World throughout centuries, even millennia, before the white man stepped foot in North America.

From the turn of the seventeenth century, First Nation confederacies were found throughout the Great Lakes, New England, and the Canadian Maritimes regions, as well as in other areas. It is difficult to date the formation of these groups; however, in one instance, elders of the Council of Three Fires (a confederation of the Chippewa, Ottawa, and Pottawatomie nations) discovered records of their ancestors that dated the Council to 800 A.D.

Today, a growing number of historians argue that the cultural impact of these confederacies upon the Founding Fathers and the budding society of the United States was significant.

The Haudenosaunee

In the pre-Revolutionary era, the most successful First Nation confederacy was that of the Iroquois, also called the Six Nations (Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, and Tuscarora.) Stretching east-west across upstate New York, the confederation encompassed land from the Hudson River to Lake Erie and between the Adirondacks and Catskills.

Collectively, in their own language, the Iroquois called themselves *Haudenosaunee*—“People Building a Longhouse.” Longhouses were the tra-



ditional homes for many north-eastern Native Americans.

‘Longhouse’ was also a synonym for the confederation itself. The Seneca lived in the western end and were “Keepers of the Western Door.” The Mohawk, at the eastern end, were “Keepers of the Eastern Door.” The Onondagas, in the center, were “Keepers of the Fire.”

They had a constitution and followed a series of internal codes; among the most important was the Great Law of Peace. Ideas such as egalitarianism, cultural unity, and the peaceful cohesion among sovereigns were embraced by Iroquois culture. Kinship, for example, was matrilineal.

Founding Fathers Influenced

Historians Donald A. Grinde, Jr. and Bruce E. Johansen write in *Exemplar of Liberty: Native America and the Evolution of Democracy*: “John Adams ... believed that [Native American] governments provided an excellent example of the separation of the three branches of government, and he urged further study of [them] in 1787, when the framers met...

Adams wasn’t alone. “There is in the writings of [Benjamin] Franklin and [Thomas] Jefferson a sense of using the Indian example to recapture natural rights that Europeans had lost under monarchy,” write the authors.

Of the Founding Fathers, Franklin seemed the most enchanted by the Iroquois. Part of his motivation to emulate aspects of the Six Nations’ society came from the charm and simplicity he experienced in viewing it—so tired he was of English monarchy and class divisions. The other part of it came from his real concern that unless the Colonies could successfully unite, they faced certain perish.

—continued on page 30

—*People of the Longhouse, cont'd. from page 29*



The Iroquois flag represents the original five nations that were united by the Peacemaker. The pine tree in the middle represents a White Pine, the needles of which are clustered in groups of five.

While the lifestyle of the Six Nations was civilized and peaceful inside the confederation, it certainly was not on the outside. The fact is, the Iroquois were on a warpath and had been for decades. Among other Native Americans, they were loathed, despised, and deeply feared.

Double-Standard?

Not contented to simply defeat other armies in those years, the Iroquois warriors would oftentimes behead all opposing warriors after defeating them. They would sometimes unearth the honored dead among defeated nations and hack the remains to pieces.

Internally among the Haudenosaunee themselves, compliance with the Great Law of Peace and other conduct codes may have been born more out of respect for martial rule (fear) than for any other reason. The Iroquois League's soldiery could approve or disapprove any civic measures within the territory. Many times civil authorities gave such deference to the warriors that questions of state policy were postponed until the soldiers might opine. Perhaps this is the reason that in nearly every council of the Six Nations, decisions were made by unanimous consent.

The brutal, wicked edge that the soldiery demonstrated on the warpath could have emerged from the long oppression that Iroquois people experienced generations earlier, when they were a peaceful, tolerant people and lived along the St. Lawrence River valley, their traditional home.

Back then, another confederacy, the Algonkians, raided Iroquois communities for years and eventually wore them down. To escape, the Iroquois disbanded and spread out. Those who moved to the Mohawk River valley consolidated their power near Albany and became possibly the fiercest confederacy of tribes in North American history.

Representing about half of all the Iroquois who were displaced, the Six Nations consolidated their power, organized themselves superbly, and trained their young to be warriors. Led by the Mohawks and the Seneca, they had become mean—and they were hungry for revenge.

Champlain's Mistake

In the early seventeenth century, after the French had grown dissatisfied with the scant beaver trade from Arcadia (the Canadian Maritimes), Samuel de Champlain was sent to scout for better sources of beaver from within the Canadian interior. By that time, much of the Iroquois population had already vacated and the Montagnais nation (part of the Algonkin confederacy) had extended its territory west along both sides of the St. Lawrence, to a point just east of present-day Montreal.

Champlain followed the St. Lawrence River downstream, where he established Quebec in 1608. His mandate was to exclude the British and the Dutch from the beaver trade. The Montagnais were reluctant to give France a monopoly on the trade without assurances of French military support. So in July 1609, Champlain accompanied a small band of Montagnais as they explored the southern side of the lake that would bear his name. He and two assistants were armed with French harquebusiers.

As if by fate, they encountered a band of two-hundred or so Iroquois, of the Mohawk tribe. To show the Montagnais what firearms could do, Champlain and his assistants killed or wounded several Mohawk with their French harquebusiers. A year later, Champlain joined a second attack against the Mohawk, again frightening them with the use of firearms.

Ultimately, the French got the trade agreements they wanted, and the French-empowered Montagnais took control of the St. Lawrence River. Nevertheless, Champlain brought to the French Crown the lasting indemnity of the Six Nations and nearly a century of war.

By the time Benjamin Franklin came to know Iroquois leaders in the pre-Revolutionary era, the Iroquois could not afford to upset either their British allies or the colonists in America. In other words, they had several reasons for which impressing Franklin and other leaders would have been in their best interest.

Iroquois Rise & Fall

The Dutch arrived to the New World via the Hudson River in 1610. To paraphrase First Nations historian Lee Sultzman, the arrival of Dutch fur traders in the Hudson Valley caused immediate friction between the Mohicans and the Mohawks, who were bitter enemies. They both wanted exclusive access to Dutch traders, and they would war with one another for many years to have that exclusivity.

After some time, the Mohawks obtained enough Dutch firearms so that the Iroquois could launch a mighty offensive against the Montagnais-Algonkin, in order to take back the St. Lawrence. By 1650, the Six Nations had destroyed the Montagnais, the Huron, the Nipissings, the Erie, the Illinois, the Miami, the Fox-Sauk-Kickapoo, and the Blackfoot. They even raided as far away as the upper Ottawa and the St. Maurice Rivers, threatening Three Rivers and even Quebec City.

France was being slowly drawn in to war with the Iroquois. The raiding, killing and kidnapping of civilians terrorized French settlers along the St. Lawrence and even discouraged colonization. In response, the King of France sent in regular troops to help turn the tide. In January 1666, the French invaded the Iroquois homeland in New York and destroyed Mohawk villages and supplies, but the

Iroquois continued to expand their territory to the west, fighting French allies and again threatening the fur trade.

They were also trying to expand southward, which caused the Colony of Maryland to declare war on them and form a strong alliance with the Susquehannock. That conflict probably signaled the beginning of the Iroquois decline.

In the 1680s, France made a second incursion into the heartland of "Iroquoia," sending 3,000 troops into confederation territory. This was followed by years of border skirmishes. By early 1700, after another deep incursion by the French into the Mohawk valley, the Iroquois signaled their desire for peace.

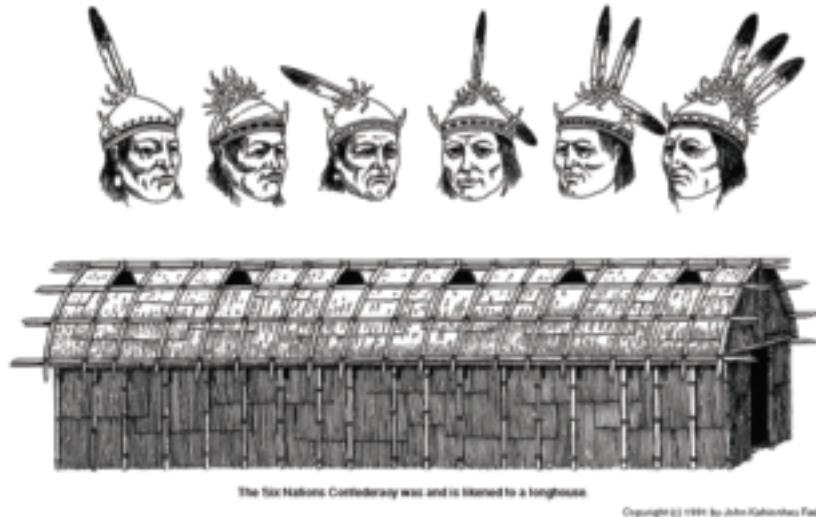
The Great Peace of Montreal

To definitively conclude all wars between New France and any of the Great Lakes First Nations, the

French invited representatives from all tribes to participate in a peace conference. The Great Peace of Montreal, a treaty signed between New France and all Great Lakes tribes in 1701, is a unique achievement in the history of the Americas. The treaty

is still valid today and is recognized by all the signatory tribes.

The treaty ended one-hundred years of war between the Iroquois, allied to the English, and the French, allied to the Huron and the Algonquians. For their part, the Iroquois promised not to intervene in any future conflict, should there be such, between France and England in North America. Future disagreements between France and England certainly came, and certainly played out on the North American theater, but that's another story. ■



The Six Nations Confederacy was and is known to a longhouse.

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