Flintlock & Powderhorn

MAGAZINE OF THE SONS OF THE REVOLUTION

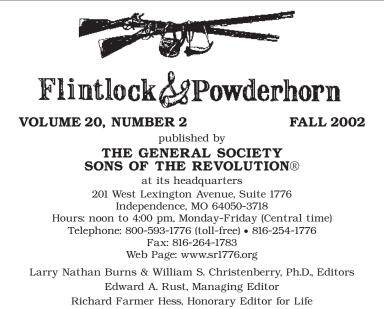


The Leadership of The Founding Fathers



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The next issue of *Flintlock & Powderhorn* will be published April 1, 2003. Deadline for article submission: March 1, 2003.

COVER: Washington's triumphant reception in Trenton, New Jersey, scene of one of his greatest victories, while en route to his April 30, 1789 inauguration in New York.

Message from General President Lunney



n June 26, 2002, one week before this year's Fourth of July celebrations, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals sitting in San Francisco ruled in a 2-1 decision that the Pledge of Allegiance is unconstitutional because it contains the words "under God" (*Newdow v. U.S. Congress*). Newdow is an atheist whose daughter attends public elementary school in the Elk Grove School District in California. Her District policy states that her class shall recite the Pledge

of Allegiance to the flag each day. Newdow does not allege that his daughter is required to participate in reciting the Pledge. Rather, he claims that his daughter is injured when she is compelled to "watch and listen as her state-employed teacher in her state-run school leads her classmates in a ritual proclaiming that there is a God, and that ours is 'one nation under God.'" Newdow has also sued President Bush because a clergyman participated in his inauguration and he has filed suit against Congress for employing chaplains.

The majority appeals panel held that the recitation of the Pledge aimed to inculcate in students a respect for the ideals set forth in the Pledge, and thus amounted to state endorsement of those ideals. The panel held that the school's policy violated the prohibition against government establishment of religion. Finally, it held that Congress's addition of the words "under God" to the Pledge was unconstitutional.

Published in 1892 as a patriotic salute for school children, the Pledge went through slight revisions before Congress made it official in 1942. In 1954 Congress inserted the words "under God" into the Pledge. The legislative history of the Act states that, "The inclusion of God in our Pledge therefore would further acknowledge the dependence of our people and our Government upon the moral directions of the Creator." Judge Fernandez, as the dissenting judge on the panel, characterized the "under God" phrase as, at most, a "picayune" threat to the First Amendment and claimed its tendency to "bring about a theocracy or suppress someone's beliefs" was so miniscule as to be *de minimis*. The Declaration of Independence states in no uncertain terms that our rights come from God—that men are "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." The basic framework of our country has grown out of this concept of God-centered rights. The Establishment Clause of the First Amendment was designed simply to prevent the federal government from establishing a national church—that is, from giving preference by federal law to one religious sect over another with tax funds or from compelling attendance at such a church.

Certainly, the Founders never intended the Establishment Clause to bar public acknowledgment of the Creator credited by Jefferson himself in the Declaration of Independence as the source of all our rights. Throughout our entire history, public pronouncements routinely acknowledged our dependence upon God for the good fortune of our nation. For example, in his first official act as president, George Washington prayed that the "Almighty Being who rules over the universe" would "consecrate" the government formed by the people of the United States (First Inaugural Address, April 30, 1789). And his proclamation of a day of thanksgiving, which we still celebrate, is an elegant national prayer requested by the very Congress that drafted the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

Judge Fernandez concluded his dissent by suggesting that, by following the majority opinion, "we will soon find ourselves prohibited from using our album of patriotic songs in many public settings. 'God Bless America' and 'America the Beautiful' will be gone for sure, and while the use of the first three stanzas of 'The Star Spangled Banner' will still be permissible, we will be precluded from straying into the fourth. And currency beware!" He added, "Nor will we be able to stray into the fourth stanza of 'My Country Tis of Thee,' for that matter."

The recitation of the Pledge helps foster an appreciation for the principles upon which the nation was founded, including the principle that government is instituted to protect the unalienable rights endowed by our Creator. On appeal, a higher Court may find a place for God in the Pledge of Allegiance.

& Robert Lunney

A SPECIAL REPORT

A First Look at the New General Society Headquarters in Independence, Missouri

The General Society's Board of Managers voted in October, 2002 to move the organization's headquarters from Fraunces Tavern in New York City to a new location in Independence, Missouri. The vote was taken on October 18 at the Board's Annual Meeting, held this year in Williamsburg, Virginia. The reasons cited for the move included cramped space and staffing concerns. Fraunces Tavern remains the headquarters of the New York Society.

The move was swiftly made, and by early December the new office was open and staffed.

The new office suite is located on the ground floor of a threestory professional building at the corner of Liberty Street and Lexington Avenue, on historic Independence Square. It contains a large front office, a smaller back office, a storage closet and a restroom. The front office contains the executive secretary's desk, a microfiche reader, filing cabinets and a conference table; the back office will be used as a workroom and storage space for General Society publications, records and other materials.

More than 80 applications were received for the position of executive secretary. A human resources consultant winnowed the applicants to eight, and these were interviewed by a committee composed of members of the Kansas City Chapter of the Missouri Society. Four finalists were then selected and were interviewed by General President J. Robert Lunney, members of the Missouri Society and the human relations consultant.

The new executive secretary is Ms. Berta Lee Foresee, who

ABOUT THE NEW GENERAL SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS

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Hours: noon to 4 p.m. weekdays, local (Central) time



The executive secretary's work area in the new General Society headquarters in Independence, Missouri.



This plaque is inside the Jackson County Courthouse on Independence Square adjacent to the new General Society headquarters.

PHOTOS BY PAUL F. DAVIS, WILLIAM R. GANN AND GARY R. TOMS

has considerable organizational experience and computer skills, as well as a master's degree in education. A second back-up staff member will be employed on an as-needed basis.

William Gann and Gary Toms, members of the Kansas City Chapter and prime organizers of the move, report that an important early task will be disposition of back issues of *Drumbeat* and *Flintlock & Powderhorn*, which filled up many of the 152 cartons that were moved from New York to Independence. Initial plans call for making up sets of the publications and offering them to



The new headquarters of the General Society, Sons of the Revolution are located on the ground floor of the corner building at left. The first automobile behind the pole is pointing directly toward the office, which is on the corner of Liberty Street and Lexington Avenue on Independence Square.

State Societies and Chapters. Sets of *Flintlock & Powderhorn* will also be offered to selected libraries around the country with specialization in genealogical and historical areas. Some libraries accepting the sets for binding will be offered complimentary subscriptions to future issues of the publication.

The office is open Monday through Friday from noon to 4:00 p.m. local (Central) time.

Independence, famous as the home of the late President Harry S. Truman, is just east of Kansas City on the south bank of the Missouri River.

Of interest to Society members visiting Independence is the Mid-Continent Public Library's Genealogy and Local History Branch, located just six blocks from General Society headquarters. This library was designated by *Family Tree Magazine* in October as one of the nation's top ten genealogy libraries. Its collections include about 40,000 genealogy and local history books



This statue of the late President Harry S. Truman is outside the county courthouse in Independence. Truman was once presiding judge in the courthouse.

as well as a complete set of U.S. population census schedules from 1790 to 1930, including Soundex/Miracode indexes. Other resources at the library include military records, Native American source materials and city directories. It also houses a complete set of the Antebellum Southern Plantation Records on microfilm.

A regional branch of the National Archives and Records Administration is located in adjacent Kansas City. It contains microfilms of the Compiled Service Records of Soldiers of the Revolutionary War, as well as their pension and bounty land application files. \bigstar

The Leadership of The Founding Fathers

by The Honorable Gerald L. Baliles



The author, governor of Virginia from 1986 to 1990, offered these remarks to the Virginia Society at its celebration of Washington's Birthday at the Commonwealth Club in Richmond on February 22, 2001. Mr. Baliles now heads the International Practice Group at the Richmond legal firm of Hunton & Williams.

I t is a pleasure for me to be here with you this evening. I believe that events such as this offer important opportunities to reflect on key issues and to think about ways to address critical challenges. They are also important opportunities to build networks and relationships—and to reflect upon the meaning and importance of leadership in our society.

And also, importantly for you, this is an appropriate time—Washington's Birthday—to reflect upon the leadership role of your ancestors in the struggle for personal freedom and the creation of a new nation. This must be a proud and solemn moment for everyone in this room.

But I can tell you that too often leadership is defined by the story of two guys, each lost in the desert. They meet, and the first guy asks: "How long have you been lost in the desert?" And the second guy replies: "Two days. How about you?" And the first guy says "Three days." The second guy then says: "Good. I'll follow you. You have more experience."

Let me, instead, take another approach to talking about the subject of leadership.

What I will do is talk about the role leadership played in the founding of our country, and then draw some conclusions from that role that might be instructive. My focus is not so much the quality of the leaders themselves, but their hopes for the quality of leadership that would follow, and the way in which a free country serves to unleash positive leadership on the critical challenges of the day.

So, what is leadership? It does not spring from words on a diploma or from participation in organizations such as yours. Leadership is born of observation and experience, reflection and reason; all practiced through some period of time of determina-

The Founding Fathers "sought to give us the opportunity—working together—to devise solutions to problems, pursue happiness and shape a greater future."

tion and sustained effort.

But it is also dependent upon circumstances, timing and luck. Leadership includes perception, an understanding, a belief that action is required in a given situation to avoid catastrophe, minimize loss or take advantage of an opportunity to improve the quality of a given situation.

Leadership is not easy to define or describe, but often is recognized. Sometimes leadership is brief, confined to a given moment or situation. There are other examples where leadership is sustained over time, even years and decades. All of this is true, whether we speak about a nation asserting leadership in a changing world or an individual exercising leadership in a community or workplace.

The early American leaders who worked to shape and inspire a new nation had a keen appreciation for the role of positive leadership. They all had high hopes that those to follow would also step forward to claim a role in shaping the future of this country. To enable their descendants to meet those expectations, they designed a political process, a system of governance, to unleash our creativity, our imagination and our capacity for independent action. Their aim was not to solve every problem, gladden every heart or automatically grant us greatness. Rather, they sought to give us the opportunity—working together—to devise solutions to problems, pursue happiness and shape a greater future.

But the system that our founders left us is not very efficient. Power-the power to make public policy-was diffused. Power was divided and dispensed in order to avoid the problems that the colonies had experienced in dealing with a foreign government in which absolute power resided in one place. The system bequeathed to us not only divided governmental power horizontally in the executive, legislative and judicial branches, but power was also distributed vertically at the federal, state and local levels. While this system is not very efficient, it has built within it the opportunity-if not the requirement-for discussion and debate before decision, a process for involving people who care about issues, who want identification of options, who insist upon discussion of costs and implications of proposed solutions. From local governments through the state and federal levels, there are thousands of opportunities for voices to be heard and leadership to be exercised in addressing the challenges of our country. It is really a remarkable process that has served us well for more than 200 years.

The process those early leaders left us, however, is not one that works automatically, not by a long shot. Its lifeblood is leadership: leaders who know the difference between optimism and pessimism; the difference between building up and tearing down; the difference between doing what is right for tomorrow and doing what is popular today; leaders who are willing to recognize that there are always tough choices to make; leaders who know that leadership means looking beyond easy answers and fainthearted solutions; leaders who take the time to answer the broader questions such as:

- What will our country be like as we move through the 21st century?
- Will the economy be strong and prosperous?
- Will our children have jobs and the opportunity for personal fulfillment?
- Will our natural scenic beauty remain protected and sheltered from harm?

But this process also works for leaders looking for answers to the narrower local questions of investments in roads, schools, mental health, the arts and the environment.

Where can deal with these types of questions only if the process left to us exists as an instrument for constructive change, to be used as the means through which public attention can be focused on what lies ahead, and what we need to do today to prepare for it. That is the real secret behind the two-century-old success story that is America.

To be an American is to not know exactly what is coming next, and to be constantly looking forward to it. We are a nation in constant motion and of perpetual change. Although it means continual adjustment, I believe we thrive on the challenge. Each generation plunges ahead, convinced that this time we can find the answers to the problems that vex us.

The fact that we have, through our history, met the challenge and taken responsibility for shaping our own future has made this country one that is admired and widely emulated around the world.

I recall a conversation with the president of Hungary, Arpad

"To be an American is to not know exactly what is coming next, and to be constantly looking forward to it. We are a nation in constant motion and of perpetual change." Goncz. The conversation occurred not long after Hungary threw off its communist dictatorship. President Goncz had invited me to his country to examine Hungary's system of local governance and recommend some steps that might be taken to improve that system. Many of Hungary's cities and towns are blessed with capable leaders, President Goncz explained, but the system under which Hungary had lived for 40 years was stifling creativity, imagination and initiative. As a result, attempts to plan and invest for the future have been nearly impossible.

President Goncz, in his parting comments, made clear his admiration for American governance, and for the fact that—by giving each of us a role and a stake in the outcome—it results in so many of us playing a responsible, active part in civil society.

I have thought about that conversation a great deal since it occurred. I think about it as I ponder the fact that it is so fashionable to denigrate the role of government and political discourse in this country. I think about it when I hear people belittle politics and disavow any intention to become involved. Indifference to the blessings of democracy is a particularly American ailment, and a tragic one. It threatens to rob us of the means to apply our imagination and creativity to the never-ending quest for the future.

The Founders of our system gave us the means not merely to survive, but to prosper. This is what we put at risk when we shy from participation in the process of governance handed down to us.

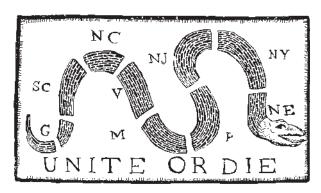
Shortly before the ratification of the Constitution, George Washington wrote a letter to the Marquis de Lafayette describing the agreement on the Constitution among the 13 founding states as "little short of a miracle." For, after they had won independence from Great Britain, Americans faced the problem of governing themselves and holding together the union formed during the Revolution. It was by no means assured that they would—or could—do so.

No longer, as historian Charles Beard once pointed out, could disputes within and between colonies be carried to London for settlement. No longer did loyalty to the British king or the common need for action in war unify the American people and their leadership. No longer did the British armed forces shield the New World from the ambitions of France, Spain and other European powers.

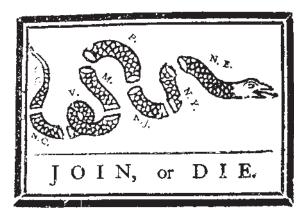
We, the people of this nation, were clearly exposed in the cold of independence and unclearly disposed as what to do next.

"Indifference to the blessings of democracy is a particularly American ailment, and a tragic one."

"...Washington wrote a letter to the Marquis de Lafayette describing the agreement on the Constitution among the 13 founding states as 'little short of a miracle.""



The image of a rattlesnake cut into segments (above) was frequently used during the Revolutionary period to show Americans the importance of unity against the British. But the first use of the image (below), by Benjamin Franklin at the time of the Albany Congress in 1754, was to unite the colonies against very different enemies: the French and Indians.



It took a small group of Virginians to induce the state legislature to call a general convention at Annapolis to discuss taxation and commerce. The Annapolis gathering was poorly attended, but it offered a young Alexander Hamilton the opportunity to successfully promote a resolution which summoned a later convention in Philadelphia. It is not my intent to detail the "Miracle at Philadelphia." Rather, I would reemphasize the legacy of that miracle, which is a democratic system of government that allows the positive leadership of individuals to make a difference. Let's look at what it means to a nation reconsidering its role, and the role of its government in a modern world in which change sometimes seems to outpace our ability to adapt.

In doing so, let us examine the myth—out of which much of the cynicism about government and politics has been born that government has historically impeded our national economic progress rather than enhanced it.

There is a notion, which has gathered currency, which ascribes the economic development of the United States to the power of unrestrained individual enterprise. It is almost as if, as Arthur Schlesinger once put it, "the mighty economy of the 20th century had sprung by immaculate conception from the loins of Adam Smith."

In point of fact, private initiative has been a stimulus to greatness. But to leave it at that is to simplify the complexities of our economy and the historical and affirmative role played by government since the beginning.

President George Washington, in his very first message to Congress, urged the assembled representatives to adopt a national government policy to advance "agriculture, commerce, and manufactures by all proper means." Washington envisioned a nation expanding to greatness along water highways—canals which would link the great river systems that webbed the United States. Government, with its capacity for drawing together capital and defusing the risks of great enterprises, would be the vehicle for securing national prosperity.

"Whatever disagreement arose among America's early leadership centered on priorities, not over the necessary role of government."

Hamilton took Washington's vision further. He saw America as a dynamic, capitalist republic, mobilizing law, technology and corporate organization to promote economic development.

Thomas Jefferson, a champion of education, also welcomed commerce and was fascinated by technology and the possibilities inherent in scientific discovery. In time, he became reconciled to the inevitability of manufacturing. In fact, when Albert Gallatin, Jefferson's secretary of the treasury, took office he designed and detailed a ten-year federal plan for the construction of roads and waterways throughout the new nation, asking Congress to pledge an annual \$2 million over the next decade, a rather large sum of money at the time.

In short, whatever disagreement arose among America's early leadership centered on priorities, not over the necessary role of government. Let me repeat that: Early arguments revolved around priorities, not over the necessary role of government. Our history teaches us that it was government that financed canals to the Ohio River, enabled the laying of railroads to West, and built airports so we could travel the world. It is government that will continue to design rockets to reach the stars.

Herbert Stein, a member of the Nixon and Ford administrations, once wrote that even Adam Smith recognized that the virtues of the marketplace needed to be complemented, in some cases, by the activity of government. Areas such as promotion of the merchant marine, prosecution of criminals, setting of standards for goods, regulation of banking, compulsory education and support for enterprises entering promising, but risky, new businesses are all mentioned in Adam Smith's writings.

Yet the American enthusiasm for government and politics has always ebbed and flowed, sometimes for good reason. From time to time, and not infrequently during the last century, government has shown its gift for undermining selfreliance and stifling free enterprise; its capacity for inefficiency, wastefulness and corruption; its tendency to erect arbitrary and capricious bureaucracies and to create worse problems than it seeks to solve.

Liberalism, at the extremities, provides just as fertile ground for the nurturing of ideologues as do the extremities of conservatism.

These are the problems that once led Winston Churchill to remark that democracy was the worst form of government ever devised—except for all the others.

How, then, to make sense of all this? What do we do with a population that is schizophrenic at best, and hostile at worst, to the role of government and politics in our current society?

Of course, we have to begin, as Churchill did, by remembering that democratic government will often be sloppy and sometimes counter-productive, but that the true test lies in whether it allows for the exercise of the positive leadership necessary to build a better nation, a better world.

So, what might our most pragmatic Founders say?

Do not deny the role of government, they would say, it is a necessity for security and economy. Understand, they would say, that the business of politics is not with theory and ideology but with accommodation. They would warn us: Beware the dogmas of the left. Beware the dogmas of the right. Beware the true believers as they volley and thunder. Moderation, reason and practical common sense have brought us our greatest triumphs as a nation. And they will do so again, if we let them.

And we must, because not unlike the conditions that confronted the Founders, we face challenges as never before. No longer self-sufficient, the American economy has become intertwined in the global marketplace. We have seen the nature of trade change radically and America's competitiveness in world markets challenged sharply.

At an accelerating pace, we watch technology create dazzling improvements in goods and services, generating millions of jobs,

revitalizing old industries and spawning entirely new ones. Simultaneously, we are distressed as technology renders established products and processes obsolete, eliminates millions of existing jobs and severely transforms millions of others.

Success or failure rests in the balance of what we do now. Will we adhere to rigid formulas designed by the philosophical purists? Or, will we reclaim the invigorating, pragmatic spirit of the founding leaders of our country and the process they bequeathed to us?

It is their spirit that, through time, has harnessed our national sense of common purpose and focused our energies on the hard work of shaping the future.

It is that spirit which has made the diversity of Americans a source of national strength, rather than a grounds for national division that we witness elsewhere in the world, especially in the Balkans and the Middle East. If we lose that spirit of unity from diversity, that sense of purpose and willingness to participate with others, we lose that which makes us one nation.

We must never forget that our "nation of nations" is very much a work in progress, previously untried, constantly seeking success. The building of our nation is not complete, and never will be. The hard work that brought us this far guarantees nothing for the future.

Adlai Stevenson once said, "America is much more than a geographical fact. It is a moral and political fact—the first community in which we set out in principle to institutionalize freedom, responsible government and human equality."

Stevenson sums up concisely what is at stake in the cynical rush to run down the institutions and the process handed down to us by the Founders of our republic. Freedom, responsibility and equality: these are among the national values that the Founders sought to perpetuate and harness. These national values are what the Founders believed would enable this nation not only to survive but prosper. These values are important building blocks, the foundation of our national success.

A s I conclude my remarks about the remarkable opportunities for leadership left to us by our nation's Founders, let me mention quickly the three elements of leadership that I believe are essential in any organization, including government. They are: (1) context, (2) preparation and (3) persuasion.

Benjamin Disraeli once said that a leader "must know the times in which he lives." In other words, a leader must clearly understand the context within which leadership will be exerted.

Bill Parcells, who has coached two different teams into the Super Bowl, once said that the better prepared he felt for a game, the better his teams would play on Sunday. In other words, those you seek to lead will be no better prepared to face a challenge than you yourself are. Preparation, not locker room speeches, gets the job done.

And then there is the importance of persuasion. If you can-

"... those you seek to lead will be no better prepared to face a challenge than you yourself are. Preparation, not locker room speeches, gets the job done."

not persuade people to follow you, how can you get anything accomplished? If you cannot persuade people to follow a course of action, why would they do it? This is true even when it might seem obvious to you that people should take a certain action because it is clearly in their interest. Harry Truman used to say that a major portion of his job was to persuade people to do things they ought to do anyway.

One more thing. All three—context, preparation and persuasion—are linked together. It is impossible to prepare if you do not understand the context in which you operate. It is impossible to persuade if you are not well-prepared. And it is certainly much easier for the persuaded to execute if they, too, understand the context and are well-prepared.

These leadership elements will serve us well, whether we run a business, a civic or charitable organization or run for office. They can take us beyond rhetoric to results. So, as you leave here tonight, resolve to use the Sons of the Revolution organization, along with your education, your experience and your freedom to build on the legacy of the process that has been left to us by the Founders of our nation. Participate knowledgeably and constructively in the affairs of your community, commonwealth or state and nation. Seek, in all that you do, to bring people together and work for practical solutions to challenging problems.

In so doing, you will confirm the potential that your ancestors and your membership in the Sons of the Revolution signify. In so doing, you will earn the title of civic leader. And in so doing, you will help ensure that the quality of life in the future will be expanded and enhanced for the hundreds of millions of people who will inhabit our land and live on our planet. \star

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A Washington's Birthday Greeting from the Marine Corps

by General James L. Jones, USMC



General James L. Jones, USMC, is the 32nd commandant of the Marine Corps. He received the 2002 Distringuished Patriot Award from the New York Society at the annual Washington's Birthday Banquet at The Plaza in Manhattan on February 15, 2002. General Jones, who spent his formative years in France, returned to the United States to attend the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in January 1967. During his years in the Marine Corps he served in Vietnam, was Marine Corps liaison officer to the United States

Senate, and served as chief of staff in Joint Task Force Provide Promise in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia. He was appointed Marine Corps commandant on July 1, 1999. His remarks at the Washington's Birthday Banquet follow.

In my office at the Pentagon there is a painting of General Washington kneeling in prayer beside his horse on a bitter cold winter day.

I am confident that this painting is familiar to all of you. It is by renowned artist Arnold Friberg and entitled, "The Prayer at Valley Forge." Commissioned for the 1976 Bicentennial, this painting is a reminder to me that Washington was a selfless patriot with the highest integrity.

His leadership and resolve were fundamental to our victory in the American Revolution. Thomas Jefferson observed that Washington

was, indeed, in every sense of the words, a wise, a good and a great man. . . . On the whole, his character was, in its mass, perfect. . . [and] it may truly be said, that never did nature and fortune combine more perfectly to make a man great. The Friberg painting of Washington is also a reminder of the tremendous legacy that all our Founding Fathers bestowed upon us. While Washington and his forces battled the British, Benjamin Franklin was fighting his own battles as the American representative to France.

Franklin was armed with wit and wisdom. While visiting France, Edward Gibbon, the British historian and author of *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, refused to have dinner with Franklin. In retaliation, Franklin commented



The official seal of the United States Marine Corps, authorized by an executive order signed in 1954 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. The seal consists of the traditional Marine Corps emblem, but the American bald eagle replaced the crested eagle depicted on the 1868 Marine Corps emblem. The anchor is described as a "foul anchor," meaning it has one or more turns of chain or rope around it.

that Gibbon feared he would be subjected to "ample materials on the decline of the British Empire." Such displays of confidence were frequent and largely due to Franklin's faith in Washington and the American cause. When Franklin was told that the British forces under the command of General Howe, had captured Philadelphia, Franklin responded: "I beg your pardon, Sir, Philadelphia has taken Howe."

Though George Washington was an Army general, he has always been popular among Marines. I often remind my Army friends of Washington's 1781 letter to Marquis de Lafayette where he writes: "It follows then as certain as night succeeds the day, that without a decisive naval force we can do nothing definitive, and with it everything honorable and glorious."

Why are naval forces so incredibly important to the welfare of the United States? What is the explanation for the incredible success of the Navy and Marine Corps team?

The answers to those questions are evident in the following tale about the oldest commissioned warship in the world, the U.S.S. *Constitution*. It comes by way of the National Park Service, as printed in *Oceanographic Ships, Fore and Aft*, a periodical from the Oceanographer of the U.S. Navy.

On 23 August 1779, the U.S.S. *Constitution* set sail from Boston, loaded with 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of water, 74,000 cannon shot, 11,500 pounds of black powder and 79,400 gallons of rum. Her mission: to destroy and harass English shipping. On 6 October, she made Jamaica, took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum. Three weeks later, *Constitution* reached the Azores, where she provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 6,300 gallons of Portuguese wine. On 18 November, she set sail for England, where her crew captured and scuttled 12 English merchant vessels and took aboard their rum. By this time, *Constitution* had run out of shot.

Nevertheless, she made her way unarmed up the Firth of Clyde for a night raid. Here, her landing party captured a whiskey distillery, transferred 40,000 gallons aboard and headed for home.

On 20 February 1780, the $Constitution\ {\rm arrived}\ {\rm in}\ {\rm Boston}\ {\rm with}$

- no cannon shot,
- no food,
- no powder,
- no rum and no whiskey.

She did, however, still carry her crew of 475 officers and men and 48,600 gallons of water. The math is quite enlightening:

- Length of cruise: 181 days,
- Booze consumption: 2.26 gallons per man per day (this does NOT include the unknown quantity of rum captured from the 12 English merchant vessels in November).

U.S. naval historians "guesstimate" the re-enlistment rate from this cruise to be 100 percent. It also marks the last time the Navy was awarded the EPA Gold Certificate for water conservation.

Historical stories like these, whether they are fact or myth, are part of a history that is like no other. Groups like the Sons of the Revolution help perpetuate America's glorious past for future generations of Americans and freedom-loving people everywhere. This is an incredibly important task.

Samuel Johnson is credited with saying that: "If we act for ourselves, to neglect the study of history is not prudent; if we are entrusted with the care of others, it is not just."

During the last 125 years, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York have made many contributions to the preservation of our heritage:

- Erecting the statue of Nathan Hale in City Hall Park;
- Purchasing and restoring Nathan Hale's Schoolhouse in Connecticut;
- Memorializing Revolutionary War era historical sites in New York City with plaques and historical markers; and
- Purchasing, restoring and preserving Fraunces Tavern.

I am truly impressed with your library and museum, including the replicas of Revolutionary War flags, valuable paintings of the era, an extensive selection of furniture, furnishings



Reprinted from the 1911 Proceedings of the General Society John Austin Stevens (1827-1910), founder of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York, which led to the formation of the General Society in 1890.

and equipment of the period, a collection of Revolutionary Warera weapons and personal effects of George Washington, Nathan Hale, and others.

The leadership of your founder and first president, John Austin Stevens, and that of your second president, Fredrick Tallmadge, ensured the early success of the organization. The continuation of that success and the relevance of the Sons of the Revolution today, however, is the result of your dedication and hard work and is cause for celebration.

Throughout her glorious history, America has successfully overcome many challenges and our war against terrorism will be no different. Though we continue to mourn the loss of life taken by the September 11 terrorist attacks, Americans cannot be intimidated...especially Marines...and, especially, New Yorkers.

We are moving forward and taking the fight to the enemy. Our successful military effort is complemented by equally aggressive political and diplomatic endeavors. We are enjoying success in building a global coalition against terrorism. Most important, America is a nation united and we have the public support and political resolve needed to win the war against terrorism.

Though we have a challenging task before us, we are also presented with an incredible opportunity: an opportunity to defeat hatred and those who foster it and an opportunity to defend our society from the cowardice of those who perpetrate acts of terror—both at home and abroad.

The recent increase in the Department of Defense budget reflects a commitment to ensuring our security. America's continued welfare and her global influence depend, in large measure, upon sustaining an appropriate level of investment in national security. The President's Fiscal Year 2003 budget enables the Marine Corps to fight today's war on terrorism and transform itself to be ready for future challenges. You can rest assured that your Marine Corps remains prepared to successfully accomplish any task or mission that we are assigned.

Want to close by sharing with you portions of a letter from John Adams to his friend, cousin and Harvard classmate, Nathan Webb. Adams wrote the letter in October of 1755, when he was a young man. At that time, the French and Indian War was underway and Americans were beginning to call themselves Americans, not colonialists. My source is David McCullough's book, John Adams.

Adams wrote: "If we look into history, we shall find some nations rising from contemptible beginnings and spreading their influence, until the whole globe is subjected to their ways."

Adams then wrote of how immortal Rome was at first an insignificant village and then briefly mentioned England's rise to power. He continued:

Soon after the Reformation a few people came over into the New World for conscience sake. Perhaps this (apparently) trivial incident may transfer the great seat of empire into America. It looks likely to me.... Since we have all the naval stores of the nation in our hands, it will be easy to obtain the mastery of the seas, and then the united force of all Europe, will not be able to subdue us. The only way to keep us from setting up for ourselves is to disunite us.

This prescient Founding Father would be pleased with America's ascendancy. The task before us now is to ensure the nation's continued prosperity and influence. We all share this responsibility and we are all capable of contributing to this endeavor. I firmly believe that we will succeed and that we will earn the gratitude of future generations of Americans.

A Brief History of The Maryland Society

by Frank P.L. Somerville

During the summer of 2002 the General Society published its first full-length history, Sons of the Revolution: A History, 1875-2001, by John Dwight Kilbourne. In addition to a detailed history of the General Society, this 400-page book contains brief histories of State Societies past and present. The following is an excerpt from one such State Society history, written by Frank P.L. Somerville, a past president of the Maryland Society. You may purchase a copy of the book through use of the order form on the inside back cover of this issue.

I was the Spring of 1892. Then, as now, the ferment of political, economic and social change was upon the land and the world. It was the year that William Ewart Gladstone, Conservative turned Liberal, became England's Prime Minister for the fourth and last time, to fight for Irish home rule. It was the year that Grover Cleveland, after a four-year hiatus, was returned to the White House to oppose high tariffs. It was the year of the bitter strike by iron and steel workers that altered the course of labor relations in the United States.

And it was the year that found twenty-three distinguished men of Maryland gathered for an evening meeting in Baltimore with two gentlemen from the District of Columbia and one each from New York and Pennsylvania. All had recently "signified their active interest in the formation of the Maryland Society of the Sons of the Revolution." The purpose would be to perpetuate their proud memories of their grandfathers' and great-grandfathers' rebellion against the King of England.

An increasingly outnumbered group of descendants of the Revolution's participants had been lamenting, as expressed in the Preamble to the Constitution of their new Society, that "it has become evident from the decline of proper celebration of such National Holidays as the Fourth of July, Washington's Birthday and the like that popular interest in the events and men of the War of the Revolution is less than in the early days of the Republic."

The fault lay not in the lapse of time, they said, but in their own failure to keep before the public mind "the memory of the services of their ancestors, and of the time in which they lived, and of the principles for which they contended." The time lapse, after all, had not been great. Only threescore years had passed



Photo by Windeell Smith Carroll In 1997 the Maryland Society hosted the 36th Triennial Meeting of the General Society. Its business meeting on October 13 was held in the House of Delegates Chamber at the Maryland State Capitol in Annapolis.

since the death of Maryland's Charles Carroll of Carrollton, last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence. Nor was the neglect of Revolutionary War memories a new concern. Fourscore and one year earlier, in 1811, a newspaper obituary of Captain Sabrett Bowen of Baltimore, dead at the early age of fifty-three, reported that his life was shortened by injuries suffered many years before when he fell from his horse in a charge upon the enemy lines before Savannah. The obituary writer went on to warn:

> A few more revolving suns, America, thou wilt see all thy patriots laid within the silent tomb, where all distinctions cease—it therefore behooves us to venerate those who have left us, and pay due respect to those that remain.

The twenty-seven gentlemen who met at 8 p.m. on Friday, April l, 1892 were drawn by their determination to see such respect paid the Founders of the nation. By their own accounts, they were also intent on preserving—and, indeed, enhancing— "personal respectability."

Consider historian J. Thomas Scharf's description of their decorous meeting place, the Mount Vernon Hotel, which was the former mansion of William J. Albert, on the south side of Monument Street, west of Cathedral Street:

> It is of brownstone, sixty feet front and four stories high, and in 1867, when it was converted into a hotel, several large additions were made, rendering it capable of accommodating seventy-five guests. In addition to the elegant furniture, splendid oil paintings, bronze statuettes, and articles of vertu adorn the lower hall and many of the chambers. The massive stairways, oiled wood paneling, velvet carpeting, and wall tapestries present a rich and luxurious appearance. The design of the undertaking was to blend the best features of the French café with the comforts and conveniences of the leading hotels of this country.

The gathering was eminently respectable. It included Daniel Coit Gilman LL.D., first President of the Johns Hopkins University, and the Honorable John Lee Carroll, former Governor (1876-1889) of the State of Maryland. There were four physicians: William M. Lee, William F. Lockwood, R.B. Morrison and Eugene F. Cordell. The other Marylanders present were John Worthington Hanson, William Hall Harris, Clayton Colman Hall, John Thompson Mason Barnes, Thomas William Hall, Edward Graham Daves, John Appleton Wilson, Patrick Macaulay Birckhead, Charles O'Donnell Lee, Frank M. Lee, Julian LeRoy White, Columbus O'Donnell Lee, Robert Riddell Brown, R.K. Goodnow, George M.T. Gibson, John Lee Reed and Philemon Hallam Tuck. Representing Sons of the Revolution affiliates elsewhere were John Selden Saunders and Albion Keith Parris of the District of Columbia Society, Mozart William Hayden from Pennsylvania and Asa Bird Gardiner from New York.

Mr. Carroll, great-grandson of the Signer of the Declaration of Independence, was President of the General Society of the Sons of the Revolution from its formation in 1890 until 1911. It was his earnest hope that the Maryland group would be organized in time to send delegates to Trenton, New Jersey for the General Society's next meeting, just twenty-three days away. He was successful. The Maryland Society came into existence officially on April 13, 1892. The incorporators, in addition to Messrs. Daves, Hayden, Saunders, White, Columbus O'Donnell Lee and Thomas William Hall, all present at the April 1 meeting, included Joseph Henry Stickney, McHenry Howard and Robert Carter Smith.

As the Victorian era turned into the Edwardian, the Maryland Society grew carefully, recording its concerns in beautiful script and fine printing. Efforts to unite with the Sons of the American Revolution, which had been founded with similar—but not identical—aims, came to nothing. Each organization had reservations about the entrance requirements of the other, and neither was ready to accept without question all of the other's members.

The minutes and other records of the Maryland Society amount to a leisurely cultural, economic, even gastronomical and meteorological history of Baltimore and its environs.

By 1896, when a handsome book was published listing the members of the Maryland Society, they numbered 126, a number that has remained fairly consistent through decades of deaths and replenishment with new inductees. The richly bound volume of 1896 was illustrated with portraits of patriots from whom many members, then and since, were descended. In 1897 the Maryland Society rejected, by a vote of forty-eight to seven, a new national constitution proposed at the meeting with the SAR in Cincinnati. Among other things, it would have changed the name to "Society of the American Revolution." The proposal was seen in Baltimore as a violation of the independence of the State Societies.

In 1898 all Maryland high school students were invited to compete for a prize by writing an essay on the subject "Maryland Troops in Southern Campaigns." Unfortunately, neither the winner nor the prize is identified. But one of those campaigns continues to be memorialized by the Maryland Society, which holds its annual meeting and formal dinner-dance on, or close to, March 14, the date of the Battle of Guilford Court House in 1781. Brave Maryland soldiers had a prominent role in this bloody and decisive North Carolina engagement.

On May 15, 1903, before air-conditioning, before fast and comfortable cars and superhighways, Maryland Society Secretary James Carey reported a committee's recommendation to postpone a dinner meeting until Fall "as it is difficult to get up a Dinner at this season of the year [because] the members are in many cases moving to the country [and] it is difficult to get them to come to town at night." Those summertime moves to the country are readily understood by any Baltimorean up to the present, with or without air-conditioning. Copeland Morton, Maryland Society Secretary, recorded on July 27, 1908, that "the meeting of the board this very hot day was short."

On March 22, 1911, the sum of \$63, a considerable part of the total in the Maryland Society's treasury at the time, was added to the French Monument Fund. On the eighteenth day of the following month officers of the General Society then meeting in Washington came to Annapolis to unveil the monument which marks the graves of unknown French soldiers and sailors who died for the cause of American Independence. On October 18, 1990 this beautifully restored monument, which is in a grove of mature trees beside College Creek on the historic St. John's College campus, was re-dedicated in a moving ceremony organized under the chairmanship of Colonel Richard N. Hambleton of the Maryland Society. Similar wreath-laying ceremonies at the monument each Fall, currently under the chairmanship of Brigadier General M. Hall Worthington, Vice President of the Maryland Society, attract the participation of many other patriotic societies, as well as the French Club of the United States Naval Academy and the Embassy of France. Such a ceremony was a centerpiece of the General Society's well-attended 1997 Triennial in Annapolis, hosted by the Maryland Society and organized under the co-chairmanship of former Maryland President John S. Kerns Jr. and General Worthington.

Twice the orderly progress of the Maryland Society through history was interrupted by World Wars; in each the Society was well represented in the nation's Armed Forces. The dues of members on active duty were remitted, and the need for military preparedness was repeatedly underscored by a succession of speakers at the meetings. On March 15, 1918, when sixteen members of the Maryland Society were serving as officers with the Army or Navy, when another was with the Red Cross in France, and still another was a hospital chaplain at the front, A.F. DuPont of Calais delivered the dinner address in Baltimore. "The clouds across the Atlantic are dark indeed in these times," Monsieur DuPont said.

Between the World Wars, on June 15, 1934, the members joined the Southern Maryland Society on a festive cruise down to St. Mary's City aboard a chartered steamer. It was one of several celebrations of the state's tercentenary under the chairmanship of William Luke Marbury, who also was President of the Maryland Society at the time.

During World War II an informal buffet supper was substituted for the annual banquet, and "the savings thus effected, plus any funds in the treasury that in the opinion of the Treasurer could be spared," were invested in Defense Bonds.

At the dawn of the new millennium worthy causes continue to benefit from "what can be spared" in the Society's treasury. A substantial grant in 1999 helped the Maryland Historical Society mount an exhibition marking the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington and the mourning that occurred in Baltimore in 1799. Generous gifts to the Society's treasury continue as well, such as a major bequest from the late Curtis Carroll Davis, a former President.

Attesting to the members' never-failing good taste are the engraved and embossed dinner menus in the archives, conjuring up a time when diet faddists had made few inroads on good food and drink. Typical is this record of the Society's seven-course repast on March 15, 1916 at the Maryland Club:

HUNGER CREEK OYSTERS BALTIMORE COUNTY CELERY ASSORTED NUTS OLIVES RADISHES MARTINI COCKTAILS

> Purée of Tomato aux Crutons Amontillado

BROILED BAY SHAD - BUTTER SAUCE DUCHESSE POTATOES SAUTERNES - BARTON & GUESTIER

BREAST OF SPRING CHICKEN - SAUCE SUPRÊME SWEET POTATOES SOUTHERN STYLE PETIT POIS LOUIS ROEDERER BRUT 1906

> Smithfield Ham Hearts of Lettuce

ICE CREAM MERINGUE ROQUEFORT CHEESE WHITE ROCK DEMI TASSE CIGARS CIGARETTES

And there is some related economic history. The carefully-itemized, total cost for that dinner for fifty-six men, including such extravagances as \$10.20 for the raw oysters, Old Ham at \$7, eighteen bottles of champagne for \$62.50, 120 cigars for \$14.40, and "ten extra Waiters and Coat Boys for \$26.75," came to the princely sum of \$4.10 per person.

In recent years the ladies have been invited to cocktails and dinner following the Annual Meeting in March, and a locally popular dance band provides music. Despite rising costs, every effort is made to maintain the quality that was set in the Maryland Society's distinguished past.



Book Reviews

by Edward A. Rust

The American Revolution: Writings from the War of Independence, edited by John Rhodehamel. New York: Library of America, 2001, 878 pps., cloth, \$40.00.

This compendium brings the reader deeper into the experience of the American Revolution than would be possible for a standard historical text. It provides diary excerpts, correspondence, governmental documents, newspaper articles and other written materials from the Revolution, authored by those on each side of the conflict and on neither side. The language is often vivid and the sentiments expressed—fear, suspicion, triumph, retribution and pure excitement—are common to any place in time of war. The book, one of some 140 volumes issued so far by the marvelous Library of America, won a Special Recognition Award for Compilation at the 2002 Fraunces Tavern Book Awards.

When approaching such a smorgasbord you tend to gravitate to your favorites. In this large volume—more than 120 selections from more than 70 individuals—I was especially taken by some of the British and Tory entries, as these are voices generally unheard on this side of the Atlantic.

One such Tory was Peter Oliver, a Massachusetts native and judge who presided at the trial of the British soldiers in the wake of the Boston Massacre. In a book he wrote in England after the Revolution, *The Origin & Progress of the American Rebellion*, he described the interrogation of a captured American lieutenant named Scott in Boston during the summer of 1775:

"Scott! I see you are a sensible Man; pray tell me how you came into this Rebellion?"

He returned this Answer: "the case was this Sir! I lived in a Country Town; I was a Shoemaker, & got my Living by my Labor. When this Rebellion came on, I saw some of my Neighbors get into Commission, who

Edward A. Rust is managing editor of the General Society's publications.

were no better than my self. I was very ambitious, & did not like to see those Men above me. I was asked to enlist, as a private Soldier. My Ambition was too great for so low a Rank; I offered to enlist upon having a Lieutenants Commission; which was granted. I imagined my self now in a Way of Promotion; if I was killed in Battle, there would be an end of me, but if my Captain was killed, I should rise in Rank, & should still have a Chance to rise higher. These Sir! were the only Motives of my entering into the Service; for as to the Dispute between great Britain & the Colonies, I know nothing of it; neither am I capable of judging whether it is right or wrong."

This Instance will solve many Conjectures, relative to the Unanimity of the Colonists in this Rebellion; & separate such Instances from the Numbers collected in carrying it on, the Justice of their Cause, when weighed in the Balance, will be found wanting.

The range of documents is wide: from a breathless description by Paul Revere of his midnight ride ("One [British officer] clapd his Pistol to my head, and said he was going to ask me some questions, if I did not tell the truth, he would blow my brains out") to the diary entries of a 16-year-old girl in Pennsylvania about the handsome American soldiers in the neighborhood.

A failing of the book is the lack of any context-setting notes at the beginning of each entry. Only when I found biographical sketches of the various authors at the back of the book was I able to begin reading a piece knowing who was who.

Paris: Birthplace of the U.S.A., by Daniel and Alice Jouve and Alvin Grossman. Paris: Grund, 1997, 103 pp., illustrated, paper, \$15.

ver our transom several months ago arrived this very handsome paperback bon-bon, which describes itself quite well as "a walking guide for the American patriot." It contains brief historical essays on 23 sites in Paris that have connections to the American Revolution, such as Lafavette's grave in the Cimitière de Picpus, buildings along a mile-long stretch of the rue de Richelieu in which American presidents at one time resided (John Adams in #17, Thomas Jefferson in #30, James Monroe in #95 and John Quincy Adams in #97), and the Palais du Luxembourg, where Thomas Paine was imprisoned for most of 1794 by French revolutionaries. This helpful and well-written guide tells you which Metro stop is near each site and translates historical plagues. There is also an excellent fold-out map on the back cover. The size (4" by 8-1/2") makes the book convenient for purse or pocket. Author Daniel Jouve is offering the book to Sons of the Revolution in the United States postpaid for \$15.00, well worth the price if you can afford the trip to Paris to make use of it. Write him at 9 Place Vauban, 75007 Paris, France. ×

Use this form to order your copy of Sons of the Revolution: A History, 1875-2001

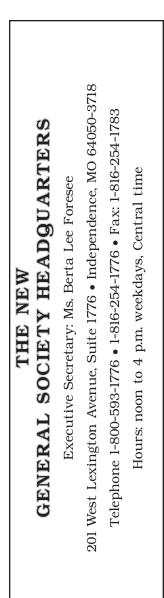
In July the General Society Sons of the Revolution published the first booklength history of the organization, *Sons of the Revolution: A History, 1875-2001.* This 400-page hard-cover volume provides a very readable narrative from the organization's beginnings as the New York Society was founded in the patriotic fervor following the nation's centennial. You'll read how forward-looking leaders from the New York, Pennsylvania and District of Columbia societies established the General Society in 1890. You'll have the opportunity to follow the development of both the General Society and its member State Societies against the backdrop of the nation's tumultuous history. The narrative concludes with the attack on the World Trade Center, just blocks from General Society headquarters at Fraunces Tavern, on September 11, 2001.

The history of the Sons of the Revolution is one of ebb and flow. State Societies blossomed and in some cases faded away. The author of *Sons of the Revolution: A History*, noted historian John D. Kilbourne, has researched in many dusty archives to produce a vibrant narrative that brings to life the seminal events in the organization's history.

The book contains separate histories of every State Society, including those that no longer exist. The appendices are a treasure-house of vital information, including lists of all General Society officers through the years, winners of the organization's various awards, the current General Society Constitution and Bylaws and data on every General Society meeting. Sixteen pages of photographs are included.

The patriots who have shaped the work of the Society for more than 125 years are the focus of this volume. Its index lists over 2,000 individuals mentioned in the text. You may find a family member in its pages.

Yes, please send me copies of <i>Sons of the Revolution: A History</i> @ \$30.00 per copy, which includes shipping and handling (New Jersey residents add 6% sales tax). A check in the amount of \$, made payable to General Society Sons of the Revolution, is enclosed. PLEASE PRINT!
Name
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