

Flintlock & Powderhorn

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To Bigotry No Sanction,

To Persecution No Assistance

George Washington, Moses Seixas,
and the Hebrew Congregation at Newport

DRUMBEAT

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Moses Seixas, Warden

To Bigotry No Sanction, To Persecution No Assistance

by Saul Montes-Bradley, II

Lecture delivered by Florida Society President Saul M. Montes-Bradley at the Mechina Yeshiva in South Miami Beach on August 17th, 2005

The times immediately following the Revolutionary War were not easy for anyone in the fledgling republic. Economic difficulties added to political uncertainty to create a period of great anxiety. Among those wary of the changes taking place were the members of the Hebrew congregation of Newport, Rhode Island.

One of the first communities to answer Roger Williams' call to a new colony based on the utmost principles of tolerance, the fifteen families who arrived between 1654 and 1658



Photo: Touro Synagogue National Historic Site

Touro Synagogue, Newport, Rhode Island

from Recife or perhaps Aruba and New Amsterdam, constituted the congregation of Kahal Kadosh Yeshuat Israel, the oldest Jewish Congregation in the US.

In 1738, Peter Harrison, the same architect who would later design Christ Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts—among other notable colonial buildings—donated his work for the design and construction of the Touro Synagogue as a new home for the congregation. The building still stands as the oldest continuously occupied synagogue in the nation, sporting several distinct architectural characteristics including a hidden room under the altar, a practice that harkens to the days when the Inquisition made such accommodations a necessity.

Its status today as a National Historic Site belies the difficulties faced by its occupants in the years following the Declaration of Independence. The largest Jewish community in Revolutionary times, it was divided and

impoverished like its Christian neighbors, facing the exodus of its loyalist members, the failure of the farms and businesses of those who remained behind and unpaid years of service to the cause of the Revolution. The uncertainties of the period of the Articles of Confederation only added to their chagrin.

Finally, in 1789, a Constitution was approved and, of particular importance to the subjects of our study today, a Bill of Rights that guaranteed freedom of conscience and a separation of Church and State. Nevertheless, with caution dictated by experience, and taking advantage of newly elected President Washington's visit to Newport, the Warden of the Newport Congregation wrote a letter to express the congregation's anxiety and its desire that the new republic be based on toleration not unlike that promised by Williams:

Sir:

Permit the children of the stock of Abraham to approach you with the most cordial affection and esteem for your person and merit,

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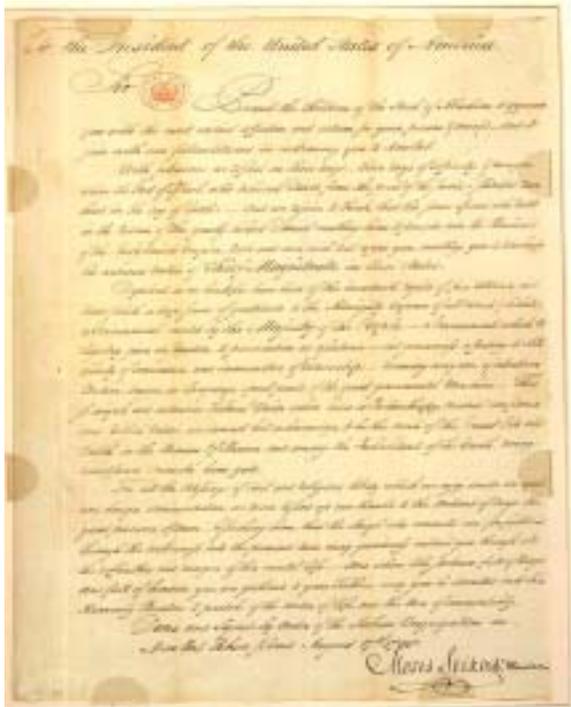


Photo: Library of Congress

Moses Seixas' letter to President George Washington

and to join with our fellow-citizens in welcoming you to New Port.

With pleasure we reflect on those days—those days of difficulty, and danger, when the God of Israel, who delivered David from the peril of the sword,—shielded Your head in the day of battle:—and we rejoice to think, that the same Spirit, who rested in the Bosom of the greatly beloved Daniel enabling him to preside over the Provinces of the Babylonish Empire, rests and ever will rest, upon you, enabling you to discharge the arduous duties of Chief Magistrate in these States.

Deprived as we hitherto have been of the invaluable rights of free citizens, we now with a deep sense of gratitude to the Almighty Disposer of all events—behold a government erected by the majesty of the people—a government which to bigotry gives no sanction, to persecution no assistance, but generously affording to all liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship, deeming every one of whatever nation, tongue, or language, equal parts of the great governmental machine. This so ample and extensive Federal Union, whose base is philanthropy, mutual confidence and public virtue, we cannot but acknowledge to be the work of the great God, who rules in the armies of the heavens and among the inhabitants of the earth, doing whatever seemeth to Him good.

For all the blessings of civil and religious liberty which we enjoy under an equal and

benign administration, we desire to send up our thanks to the Ancient of days, the great Preserver of men, beseeching Him that the angels who conducted our forefathers through the wilderness into the promised land may graciously conduct you through all the difficulties and dangers of this mortal life; and when, like Joshua, full of days and full of honors, you are gathered to your fathers, may you be admitted into the heavenly paradise to partake of the water of life and the tree of immortality.

Done and signed by order of the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island, August 17, 1790.

Moses Seixas, Warden

Full of Jewish imagery and praise for the President, the letter is also a reminder of why the members of the congregation had joined the revolutionary effort, and it expressed in unequivocal terms their desire that the new government live up to its promise of civil and religious freedom.

President Washington's answer is singularly telling not only for what it says, but for *how* he says it.

Unlike previous replies of the same kind (i.e. to the Jewish Congregation of Savannah, Georgia) Washington makes the words of Warden Seixas' his own and delivers a reply that clearly establishes his views on religious freedom and his promise that it would be forcibly defended, giving "to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance" while resorting to Jewish imagery as if it were his own. The message is as compelling today as it was in 1790 and just as relevant:

Gentlemen:

While I received with much satisfaction your address replete with expressions of esteem, I rejoice in the opportunity of assuring you that I shall always retain grateful remembrance of the cordial welcome I experienced on my visit to Newport from all classes of citizens.

The reflection on the days of difficulty and danger which are past is rendered the more sweet from a consciousness that they are succeeded by days of uncommon prosperity and security.

If we have wisdom to make the best use of the advantages with which we are now favored, we cannot fail, under the just administration of a good government, to become a great and happy people.

The citizens of the United States of America have a right to applaud themselves for having given to mankind examples of an enlarged and liberal policy—a policy worthy of imitation. All possess alike liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship.

It is now no more that toleration is spoken of as if it were the indulgence of one class of people that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights, for, happily, the government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens in giving it on all occasions their effectual support.

It would be inconsistent with the frankness of my character not to avow that I am pleased

with your favorable opinion of my administration and fervent wishes for my felicity.

May the children of the stock of Abraham who dwell in this land continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants; while every one shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree and there shall be none to make him afraid.

May the father of all mercies scatter light, and not darkness, upon our paths, and make us all in our several vocations useful here, and in His own due time and way everlastingly happy.

G. Washington

One can hardly imagine the relief and happiness these words from Washington bestowed upon the members of the old congregation of

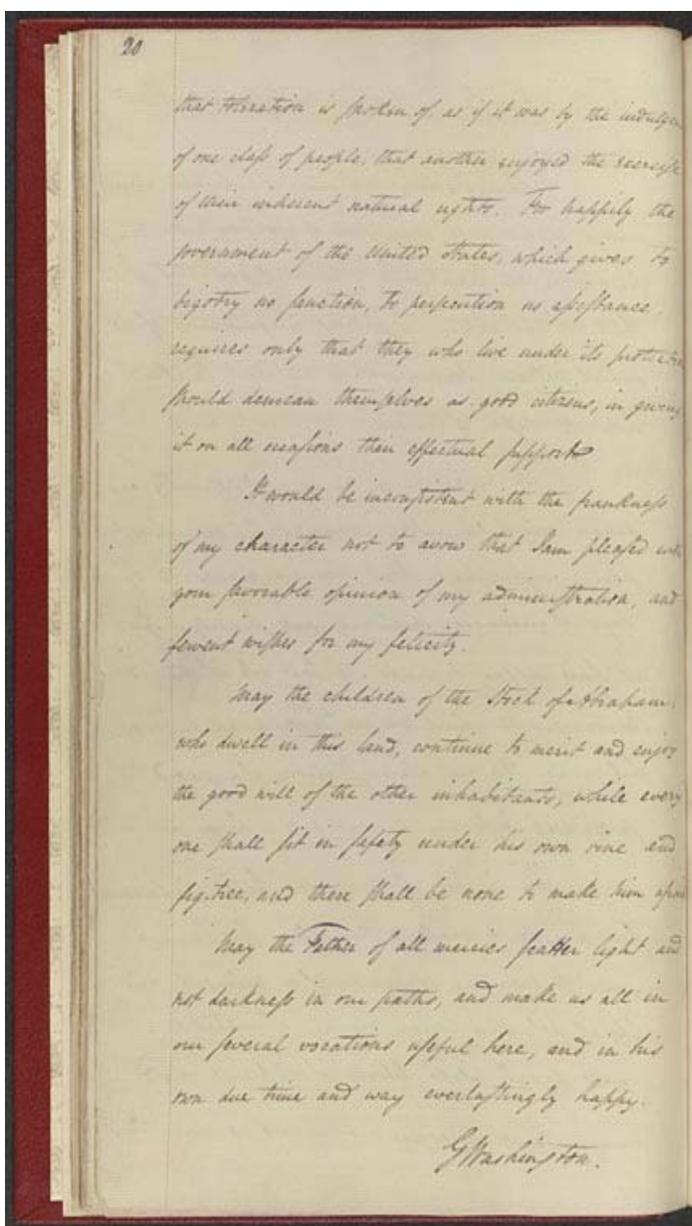
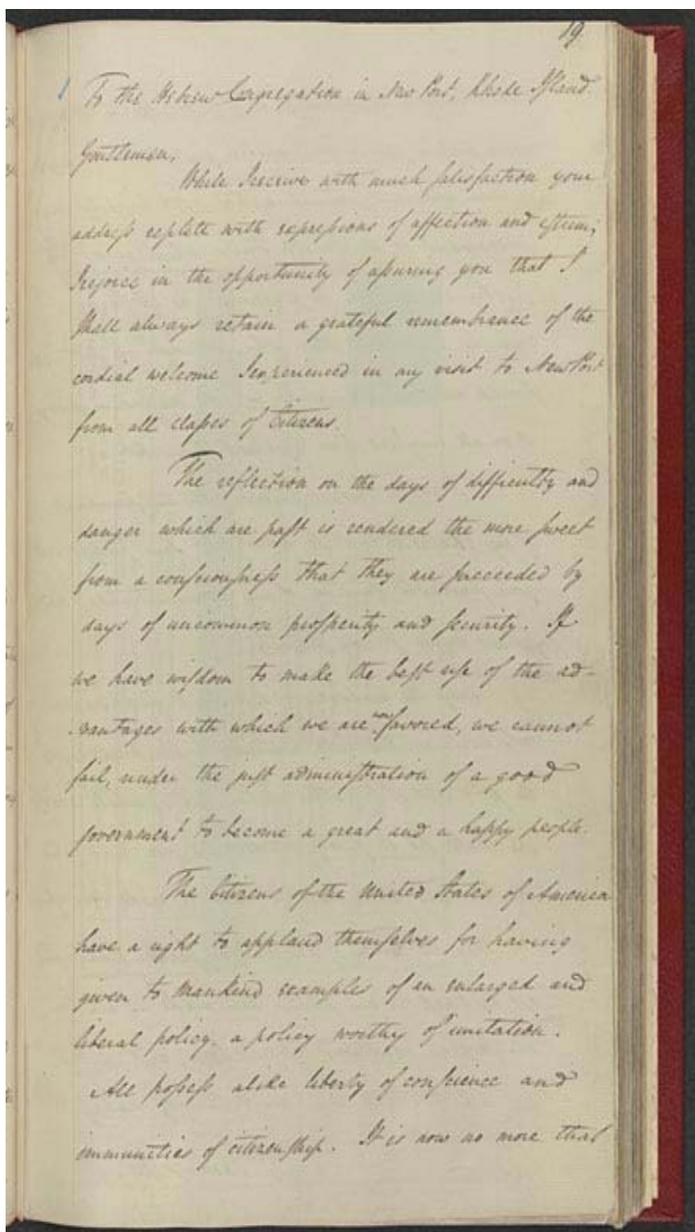


Photo: Library of Congress

Copy of the letter of President George Washington to the Jewish Congregation at Newport, in the hand of Washington's secretary

Yeshuat Israel. There it was, in terms that afforded no doubt, the promise of a continuance of the peace and prosperity they had enjoyed since the time their forebears answered the call of Roger Williams—and that remains unfettered to this day.

Washington's correspondence with the Newport Congregation was published in numerous newspapers in the 1790s, spreading a message of tolerance and establishing the free and equal status of all beliefs in the new nation.

Alas, not all states were as quick to respond, but even as Maryland prepared to give political rights to its Jewish population in 1824, Governor Worthington resorted to the arguments made by President Washington in this correspondence as sufficient.

In the months following Washington's reply, many more congregations sent him congratulatory addresses, like the following from Manuel Josephson, president of Philadelphia's Mikve Israel, on behalf of the Hebrew Congregations of Philadelphia, New York, Charleston, and Richmond, written on December 13th, 1790:

Sir,

It is reserved for you to unite in affection for your character and person every political and religious denomination of men; and in this will the Hebrew congregations aforesaid yield to no class of their fellow-citizens.

...The wonders which the Lord of Hosts hath worked in the days of our Forefathers, have taught us, to observe the greatness of His wisdom and His might throughout the events of the late glorious revolution; and while we humble ourselves at His footstool in thanksgiving and praise for the blessing of His deliverance; we acknowledge you, the Leader of American Armies, as his chosen and beloved servant; But not to your sword alone is present happiness to be ascribed; that, indeed, opened the way to the reign of Freedom, but never was it perfectly secure, till your hand gave birth to the Federal Constitution, and you renounced the joys of retirement to seal by your administration in Peace what you had achieved in war.

To the eternal God, who is thy refuge, we commit in our prayers the care of thy precious life; and when, full of years, thou shalt be gathered unto thy people, thy righteousness shall go before thee, and we shall remember, amidst our regret, "that the Lord hath set apart the godly for himself," whilst thy name and thy virtues will remain an indelible

memorial on our minds.

Manuel Josephson

Today, we mark two hundred and fifteen years since Washington's reply to Warden Seixas, and three hundred and fifty-one since the settlement of the first families of the Yeshuat Israel congregation in Newport.



Photo: Touro Synagogue National Historic Site

Inside view of the sanctuary of Touro Synagogue,

Think of this, for it is no mean fact. And as you think of this, rejoice and applaud yourselves for continuing to give mankind "*examples of an enlarged and liberal policy—a policy worthy of imitation,*" and that we "*all possess alike liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship.*"

In the course of the life of many in this room, we will mark four hundred years of continued Peace and Prosperity for the Jewish congregation at Newport. Four Hundred years! There is no other example anywhere at any time in history of a Jewish congregation being free from persecution for four Centuries. Not one.

Let me repeat that. There is no other example anywhere nor at any time in history of a Jewish community living free from persecution for nearly four Centuries. None, that is, except that afforded by the land of Roger Williams and George Washington.

May we always prove worthy of their efforts, their love of freedom and their noble inheritance.

So may it be God's will.

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Please submit articles and news as you wish them to appear in the Drumbeat, and provide captions for all graphic material. Electronic submissions are preferred. Typed, double spaced articles ready for publication are greatly appreciated.

Freedom of Choice

by Caswell Cooke

Remarks by Caswell Cooke, President of the New Jersey Society, on occasion of laying a plaque commemorating African-American soldiers and patriots in the city of Trenton on May 27th, 2005

Mr. Mayor, all you young students, teachers, guests, and my friends in the Sons of the Revolution—especially the Captain of our Color Guard Scott Scammell, who has brought out some of our flags that represent various battles of the American Revolution. Take a look at them and enjoy them.

It's a beautiful day and a great opportunity when you leave here to try to find the twelve granite monuments that mark the trail that George Washington took from Trenton to

Princeton to fight a battle on January 3rd, 1777. These twelve monuments are just some of the many that the Sons of the Revolution have placed as reminders of the war of American Independence. These monuments have been maintained in recent years by some of our members

including Fred Gilman and Jack Gulick.

And, so, with the dedication of this memorial today we again recognize our predecessors, who made a daring choice. They, in their wisdom, resolved to protest paying taxes to a king across an ocean, a king whose army was the best in the world at that time, a king who would never set foot in the American colonies...but a king with absolute power over his English-speaking subjects.

These people who made this choice to rebel against the king had no voice nor vote—such things were unheard of at the time. Nor did they have a host of other rights that we hardly give a second thought about today—like the right to assemble in gatherings like this, or to publicly express opinions as I am doing right

now. Almost no one anywhere had such rights. It was normal to be ruled by a king who taxed you at his discretion, and caused you to live by a narrowly defined code of behavior even in your own community.

There was very little choice about life in those days. That is why so many people left their homes and adventured to “the New World”. They left the old ways behind for one reason or another—but generally because they did not like its rules or lack of choices. They wanted freedom of choice.

Back in 1776, and even numerous years before then, the American Revolution was a daring idea. No one really thought common people could govern themselves. And for a dozen years our forefathers struggled with assembling and forming an army and defining a new

form of government—and finally they got it all together.

It was about the right to make certain choices—even if they were irrational choices. Certainly thinking that an untrained, ill-clothed, poorly fed army could defeat the fearsome British Regulars was a fantasy. But the choice to revolt had been made. Volunteers to become soldiers came from all walks of life: there were whites, blacks, Native Americans, some rich, others poor, city folks, farmers, educated and not so educated, and even supporters from across the ocean in France and Poland. These people made a choice to support a new, unproved idea that would change the world. They fought with the courage of their convictions and with the hope of a better qual-



(from left to right) President Caswell Cooke, a bystander, Fred Gilman and Trenton Mayor Douglas Palmer.



New Jersey Society President Cooke delivering his remarks in Trenton. The plaque can be seen at the lower left corner.

ity of life. They fought to be free to choose—choose their religion, choose their place to live, choose to assemble or to move around freely, and choose the right to express their opinions. They called it Liberty.

And, years after the American Revolution, France and England and eventually all of Europe threw out their absolute rulers and established constitutions and elected governments.

Today, in spite of all the criticisms, America still represents to the world the place where there is Freedom of Choice. Other countries may make better cars from time to time or have better health plans or even more challenging universities, but it is Americans who taught the world about Freedom of Choice.

The world loves to criticize us but they vote with their feet. They come here from all corners of the earth, they represent all colors and conditions of men, women, and children coming by the millions. They risk their lives crossing the dangerous waters from Cuba or as a stowaway in ship containers where they may suffocate, or simply by walking across the Rio

Grande River under the nightly cover of darkness—just to get here to our United States—often with no idea what they will do when they do arrive.

They come because of what the statue of Lady Liberty represents: the dignity of the individual human spirit and thus the ability to choose one's path in life.

All who have arrived to this great country since 1783 have the courage of the troops who endured the hardships of the American Revolution to thank for being able to have that choice. We must always remember and honor those Revolutionary War troops. They made a choice to defy their king, to challenge the norm of the world at that time, and to forge a new way of government and a new way of life for generations to come—a life which includes you and me.

It is the responsibility of each of us to remember and honor those achievements this Memorial Day weekend and especially in this memorial that we are dedicating today. A very special one “...to the memory of the Black soldiers and Patriots, both free and enslaved, who served in the American Revolution.” Let us keep this concept in our minds as a reminder that we may maintain our uniquely American Freedom of Choice. I hope that some of you will hear and feel my message and choose to make an effort to join with the Sons of the Revolution in our effort to continue the spirit of patriotism. God bless you all and God bless America.



Board of Managers Annual Meeting, 2005

Northbrook, Illinois

The Illinois Society will play host to the 2005 Board of Managers meeting which will take place October 21-23 in Northbrook, Illinois, a northern suburb of Chicago. The program of activities will begin Friday the 21st with an executive committee meeting, followed by a wine and cheese reception in the evening. Saturday's schedule will include business meetings, a tour of the Art Institute of Chicago and luncheon for the ladies, men's business luncheon, and a black-tie banquet. The program will conclude Sunday with a closing breakfast. The location for the meeting is the Radisson Hotel Northbrook, 2875 North Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook, IL 60062. Room reservations can be made by contacting the hotel at 847-298-2525. Single and double rates are \$79.00 per night plus tax. The hotel is approximately twenty minutes by car from Chicago's O'Hare International Airport.

Registration Costs

Total Cost with Ladies' Program: \$275
 Total Cost without Ladies' Program: \$220
 Saturday Only: \$140.00
 Ladies' Event Only: \$55
 Saturday Banquet Only: \$65

Schedule of Activities:

Fri. October 21st:
 Executive Meeting 3:00-5:00PM
 Wine and Cheese Reception 6:30-8:00PM

Sat. October 22nd:
 Continental Breakfast 7:00-9:00AM
 Business Meeting 9:00-12:00PM
 Ladies' Program 9:30-3:00PM
 (Event limited to 25 registrants.)
 Men's Luncheon 12:00-1:00PM
 Business Meeting 1:00-4:00PM
 Formal Banquet 6:30-10:00PM

Sunday, October 23rd:
 Continental Breakfast and Farewell 7:00-9:00PM

To register, make checks payable to **Annual Meeting, GSSR** and mail to **James F. Barr, 3162 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL 60657.**

The deadline for registration is **October 14th.**



Pritzker Military Library

Located at 610 North Fairbanks Court, 2nd Floor, in Chicago, the Pritzker Military Library maintains an impressive collection of materials focusing on the concept of the Citizen Soldier as an essential element for the preservation of democracy.

With more than 13,000 volumes, the Pritzker Military Library's book collection is made up of titles spanning all periods of history, countries, cultures, peoples, and branches of the United States military services. The concentration of military history titles is primarily 20th century or "modern" warfare and the American Civil War. Though the majority of works are non-fiction, the collection includes some fiction with military and political themes.

The library also has a collection of audiovisuals including film, video, slides and audio tapes. Programs recorded and webcast at the Library are also available in the collection.

A growing collection of original military posters includes some of the best known 20th century patriotic and recruitment art. Examples include material from the United States and Europe. Contemporary art prints are also represented in the collection.

Realia Artifacts in the Library collection range from military medals to uniforms from different wars to swords and other memorabilia from the Civil War.

The periodicals collection includes historic titles from the different branches of United States service and the Civil War. Contemporary titles include such publications as *Military History Quarterly* and *American History*.

An online catalog is available to registered members. Registration is free and open to the public, and can be accomplished by visiting the "Membership" section at the library's website: <http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org>

Delegates wishing to visit this unique Chicago attraction must make appointments by calling the library at 312-587-0234. The professional library staff can assist with research and enjoyment of the library in the selection of casual reading.

**GSSR, 2005 Board of Managers Meeting
Radisson Hotel Northbrook, Northbrook, Illinois**

Registration Form

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

State Society: _____ Position: _____

Event Registration

Please provide number of registrants

All, including Ladies' Program	\$ 275.00	x _____	= _____
All, without Ladies' Program	\$ 220.00	x _____	= _____
Saturday Only w/Ladies' Program	\$ 195.00	x _____	= _____
Saturday Only w/o Ladies' Program	\$ 140.00	x _____	= _____
Saturday Banquet Only	\$ 65.00	x _____	= _____
Total remitted			_____

Please make checks payable to **Annual Meeting, GSSR** and mail to **James F. Barr, 3162 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL 60657.**

Deadline to register is **October 14th.**
Please include a copy of form with your check.



Radisson Hotel Northbrook
2875 North Milwaukee Avenue
Northbrook IL 60062
Reservations: (800) 333-3333
Telephone: (847) 298-2525 Fax: (847) 298-8965
Email: rhi_noil@radisson.com

Directions from O'Hare:
Exit airport onto I-190 (1.9 mi); At exit 1C, turn **RIGHT** onto Ramp (0.2 mi); Merge onto I-294 [Tri-State Tollway] (8.1 mi); Turn off onto Ramp (0.5 mi), stay on **LEFT**; Turn **LEFT** (West) onto Willow Rd (0.9 mi); Keep **RIGHT** onto Ramp (0.4 mi); Turn **LEFT** (South) onto US-45 [SR-21] (0.3 mi); Keep **LEFT** onto SR-21 [N Milwaukee Ave] (0.6 mi)



NUMBER 45

DRUMBEAT

Sons of the Revolution The General Society



Reports from General Society Headquarters — Independence, Missouri

Fall 2005

The American Revolution Re-enacted

by Jeff Lambert

Mr. Lambert is Secretary of the North Carolina Society. He has been participating in re-enactments since 1980 as a member of the First Virginia Regiment—first commanded by Patrick Henry—and serves as Chairman of the Continental Line—an organization with participating units from Maine to Georgia. He participates in re-enactments from Massachusetts to Georgia and has been featured in a number of movies, including "The Patriot."

In October 2006, a sleepy little Virginia town on the York River will be invaded by an army of foreigners and mercenaries, determined to seize our liberty. That's right, the British Army of General Cornwallis will once again encamp behind earthworks, while the combined armies of General Washington, and French General Rochambeau lay siege to the town. Making up these armies will be over four thousand Revolutionary War redactors who will descend on the town and the surrounding area for four days, recreating the events of this important American victory.

Bunker Hill was a proclamation to the world of the resolution to resist Parliamentary aggression to fellow Englishmen. Yorktown represents the pledge kept to that resolution by Americans. With the victory at Yorktown, the Declaration of Independence was now more than words on paper; it was a completed act and the spirit for which a new nation was born. Yorktown was not a stand-alone act, but the climax to a series of events that went on for over six long years. Lexington-Concord, Quebec, Trenton, Princeton, Saratoga, Savannah, Charleston, Camden, Cowpens, and Guilford Courthouse were all a part of the struggle and triumph. It would take another two years before the peace was formalized. The act of declaring independence was done with a pen, and fought with years of blood, sweat and tears, would finally be ended with another stroke of the pen. It would bring closure to a world war that had global impact politically, sociologically, and theologically.

In October 2006 the events at Yorktown will be recreated by living historians to commemo-

rate this historic battle. This 225th celebration is to commemorate not only the Victory at Yorktown, but to remember all those patriots who took part in the founding of our republic and fought for the ideals of Liberty and Freedom.

Living historians from California to Florida will assemble to honor those who fought for what they believed was right. Organizations such as the Society of the Cincinnati, Sons of the Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution and Children of the American Revolution will take part in the ceremonies and parades to remember that moment when a new nation was taking its first steps into a world turned upside down. Dignitaries from around the world will attend and pay homage. It will be a wonderful anniversary commemorating this marvelous event.

This celebration will not happen overnight. In fact, the planning started after the Bicentennial in 1981. The State of Virginia has joined, too, celebrating the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown—a mere twenty miles away from Yorktown—as part of a year long celebration.

Back in 1981 we did not face some of the harsh realities of today's world. During the Yorktown Bicentennial, funding was not a problem and Federal, state and private dollars were abundant. Bicentennial Minutes appeared on television every night. Books, red white & blue t-shirts, hats, and other paraphernalia were turned out at a record pace. It is also a post September 11th world as well, and security in 1981 was nothing like it is today.

Fortunately I have had access to operational plans from the Yorktown Bicentennial. I planned my first large-scale event in 1992 with the help of a group of great people and a very cooperative site. It took nearly two years of bonding with the site to develop a level of comfort with which we were happy. I learned a lot from this and subsequent events, as have others that bring with them a treasure trove of experience and lessons learned. With Yorktown's 225th Celebration, this bonding has been going on for twenty-five years, though certain policies in place today preclude some of the activities that took place in 1981, yet alternatives have been found.

In 2006 we have a special opportunity at Yorktown. There will be the traditional wreath laying ceremonies and seminars, together with The River Walk, a project to make the businesses on the waterfront have an 18th century flair, complete with piers bustling with nautical life. Yorktown itself will be a little like it was in 1781, with Crown forces encamped in town, and American and French forces letting their determination be known on the outskirts.

Those wishing to find out more about this event can visit the organizer's web site at www.Yorktown225.org

REPORTS FROM STATE SOCIETIES

PENNSYLVANIA

submitted by Winchell Carroll

Let Freedom Ring is the only Congressionally mandated Independence Day commemoration. It is the premier patriotic event of the *4 days of the Fourth* and *Sunoco Welcome America* festivals—truly celebrating America's Birthday in America's Birthplace.

The Pennsylvania Society and its Color Guard have hosted this worldwide patriotic event since 1969.

This year, in addition to the ceremonial tapping of Liberty Bell, we honored the crew of the USS Cole (DDG67) (right) that made its first formal port visit since the ship was attacked by terrorists—and seventeen sailors were killed—on October 12th, 2000. It came specifically to take part in Let Freedom Ring. We were also honored to have with us the Normandy Liberty Bell which was cast last year to take part in the 60th anniversary of the D-Day landings in France on June 6th, 1944.

At 12:15PM, a parade brought the Normandy Liberty Bell from the National Constitution Center to the Liberty Bell Center, led by D-Day veterans and escorted by the crew of the USS Cole, the Color Guard of the Pennsylvania



Society and the Fife and Drum Corps of the 2nd Pennsylvania Regiment of 1777.

Afterwards, the Ceremonial Band of the US Navy from Washington, DC played a concert of patriotic music followed by the world famous Philadelphia Boys Choir. Then, Governor Edward G. Rendell and Mayor John Street addressed the assembly and, after a short concert by the Ceremonial Band of the US Navy, the dignitaries tolled the Normandy Liberty Bell seven times in honor of the word *Liberty*.

At 2:00PM, four children who are direct descendants of Signers of the Declaration of Independence gently tapped the Liberty

Bell thirteen times in honor of the Patriots of the thirteen original states. This is the signal for thousands of bells to ring all around the world, including all the ships of the US Navy, the US Coast Guard and the US Merchant Marine.

The ceremony closed with a fly-over by A-10 *Warthogs* of the PA Air National Guard, and music from the choirs and bands.

For more information and to participate in next year's event visit the Society's website at www.let-freedom-ring.org.

MISSOURI

The Missouri Society held its Annual meeting on the 29th and 30th of April, 2005, hosted by the St. Louis chapter. Each year, St. Louis and Kansas City chapters alternate as hosts of the State Society meeting.

The meeting was launched with a formal dinner commemorating the Battle of Fort San Carlos at the New Knight Center of the Olin School of Business at Washington University.

Fought on May 26th, 1780, the Battle of Fort San Carlos was the only revolutionary battle to occur west of the Mississippi River.

Retiring President William Wilson of St. Louis was honored for his service to the Society by past President Michael Frost and Secretary Fairfax Jones, who presented President Wilson with his past President star.

The following day, the Annual Meeting was held at the St. Louis Art Museum. Mr. Gary Toms of Kansas City was elected President and Mr. Douglas Niermeier 1st Vice President.

Saturday evening, a black-tie dinner was



Missouri Society Secretary Fairfax Jones, retiring President William Wilson and past President Michael Frost.

held at the St. Louis Club atop the Pierre Laclade building in suburban Clayton. The Hon. Stephen Limbaugh, Senior Federal Judge of Missouri, a recipient of the St. Louis' Chapter Modern Patriot Award in 2003 and a renowned historian of the Revolutionary War, gave his remarks.



From Left to right, (top) William Gann, Bud McCain, Chas Barnes, Frank Root, retiring President William Wilson and newly elected President Gary Toms, (bottom) Dr. Gene Lewis, Fairfax Jones, Richard Schreiber, Dr. Michael Frost, and Dr. Larry O'Neal.

MASSACHUSETTS

submitted by Miss Joanne Fantucchio

An enthusiastic group of 39 attended the Annual Spring Luncheon, held on May 4, 2005. Harold F. Ordway, Jr., Treasurer and General Vice President for Region I, General Society, served as Luncheon Presiding Officer.

It was a great pleasure to welcome back Assistant Registrar Richard C. Wright, our meeting photographer, after too long an absence. A "surprise" and most welcome guest was Robert P. Vivian, a past President of the New Jersey Society, now residing in Wells, Maine.

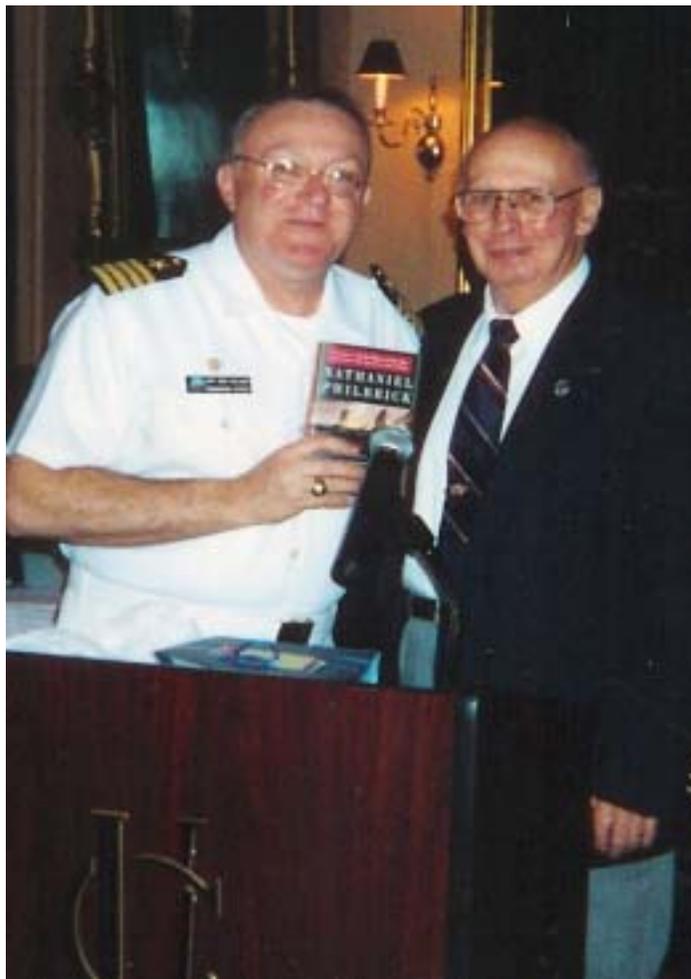
Dr. Henry N. McCarl, a Life Member and President General of the National Society of the SAR, led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Society has been pleased to continue the annual presentation to an outstanding Army ROTC cadet, a practice started three years ago. Together with the Professor of Military Science, Lieutenant Colonel Brian L. Baker, USA, and Registrar Thomas Mayhew Smith, General Vice President Ordway displayed the General Society's Paul Revere Bowl. The award recipient, Army Cadet Sean R. Marcisin, could not attend, as he was studying for final exams.

There was still another presentation to be made! General Vice President Harold F. Ordway, Jr., congratulated Colonel Baker, a Life Member and Assistant Secretary of the Society, giving him a token of admiration and esteem, a book entitled *American Soldier, General Tommy Franks*. The Colonel retired from the Army on



Sharing Hearty Laughter at the Reception: (Left to right) Assistant Registrar Richard C. Wright, who served as meeting photographer; Captain Robert D. Holland, USN, and Gina Gerhard, guest of Mr. Wright.



Thanking the Speaker for an Outstanding Talk: At the conclusion of his talk, which kept the interest of the membership from start to finish, General Vice President for Region I, General Society, and Society Treasurer Harold F. Ordway, Jr. (at right), presents the speaker, Captain Robert D. Holland, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Consortium, Boston University - Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with a memento of his visit, a book entitled *SEA OF GLORY, America's Voyage of Discovery, the U. S. Exploring Expedition*-all about the sea and the Navy.

June eighth after an outstanding career that spanned 26 years of service to our country.

Captain Robert D. Holland, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Consortium, Boston University - Massachusetts Institute of Technology, guest of honor and speaker, gave a riveting talk on the ROTC program at Boston University and MIT. He was a fantastic speaker, capturing the audience's attention from start to finish. As a memento of his visit, General Vice President Ordway gave the Captain a book entitled "Sea of Glory, America's Voyage of Discovery, the US Exploring Expedition—all about the sea and the Navy."

An exceptional gathering brought the season to a fitting close!

TENNESSEE

Submitted by William J. Acuff, President

The move back to the newly refurbished office of the Tennessee Society in the East Tennessee History Center Building is now complete. Penny D'Armand, office manager, is ready to better serve our membership in matters relating to the Tennessee Society including almost instant access to the member database at the General Society Headquarters in Kansas City as well as the Tennessee Society database via high speed internet connection. The new office address is: Tennessee Society, Sons of the Revolution Room 233 East Tennessee History Center 601 South Gay Street Knoxville, TN.



Assistant Registrar Reece Sexton presides over the Bell Ringing Ceremony at the Morristown City Center

The mailing address remains the same: PO Box 2401 Knoxville, TN 37901. Please send all correspondence to the PO Box address. The phone number also remains the same 865 540-3950. All General Society members, prospective members and guests are invited to phone or visit the office 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday, except holidays. Please call Penny before your visit.

The Tennessee Society has actively pursued

development of new chapters over the past several months, to better serve the membership throughout the state. There are now seven very active chapters and plans to establish seven more by the end of 2005.

Committee work has already begun planning for the Triennial General Society meeting to be held in Knoxville the last weekend in September 2006. Please mark your calendars for this first time event in this State.

This year, five Tennessee Society chapters participated in the "Let Freedom Ring" ceremony, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Society, as follows:

Colonel McFarland Chapter, Hamblen County, Morristown, Richard Carroll, Sr., President. This very active chapter provided one half the funding and the city of Morristown, Corporate and Patron sponsors and school children with their "pennies for the Liberty Bell" provided the other half of the cost for a new, exact replica of the original Liberty Bell. This bell is located in a very prominent place in downtown Morristown at the "City Center".

John Rice Irwin, Anderson County Chapter, Harry E. Patton, President. The bell was rung at the Museum of Appalachia.

Colonel John Donelson, Davidson County Chapter, Brig. General Bertram Chalfant, President. The bell was rung at the Tennessee State Capitol grounds in Nashville.

Colonel Gideon Morgan, Roane County Chapter, Gary L. McDonald, Sr., J.D., President. The bell was rung at Fort Southwest Point, Kingston.

General John Sevier, Sevier County Chapter, Arthur M. Bohanan, President. The bell was rung at the Greenbriar section of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

There was lots of pageantry individually associated with the Bell ringing at each location including at some guest speakers, CAR fife and drum corps, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, patriotic music presentations and other appropriate activities.

The long awaited Archeological Dig, at the Henry Station (Fort) site, was begun July 5th, 2005. The Henry Station is located in the Kodak section of Sevier County and is the site where the Treaty of Dumplin Creek was signed on June 10th, 1785 between General John Sevier, representing "The State of Franklin" and Ancoo, chief of Chota, Abraham, Chief of Chilhowee, The Bard, Valley Towns Warrior, The Surgeon of Tallassee, and some 30 other Chiefs of the Cherokee nation.

This treaty opened 4,000,000 acres for settlement between the Holston and French Broad Rivers down to where these rivers come together to form the Tennessee at Knoxville. When the Dig is completed, restoration of the Fort and the portion of the famous Indian War and Trading path that passes diagonally through this property will be completed. The restored Henry Station and Indian War and Trade path, along with a living Indian and pioneer village and museum will be open for the

public. There will also be camping grounds for the Scouts and sites for reenactments.

The Tennessee Society Annual Summer Luncheon was held at the Cherokee Country Club in Knoxville on Saturday July 9th, 2005. An outstanding program included favorite speaker and General Society Chaplain the Rev. Jack Jones Early, and a patriotic musical presentation by "The Dignitaries," an award winning professional Barbershop quartet.

MARYLAND

General President M. Hall Worthington joined Maryland Society President Richard Patterson for the presentation of the General Society's Annapolis Trophy.

President Patterson presented the trophy to Midshipman William G. Cocos, III, the son of William and Barbara Cocos of St. Louis, Missouri.

The Annapolis Trophy is awarded every year to the Midshipman at the US Naval Academy who has shown Outstanding achievement in the Naval Weapons and Systems Engineering professional courses.

Midshipman Cocos will be assigned after graduation to the University of Pennsylvania for System Engineering and Basic Underwater Demolition School in Coronado, California.



General President M. Hall Worthington, Prof. C. E. Wick—Chair, Weapons and Systems Engineering, US Naval Academy—President Richard Patterson and Midshipman William G. Cocos, III

Patriot Vignettes

from the Archives of the General Society

submitted by Berta Foresee

Captain David Phelps, II, served under his brother Noah in Colonel Ethan Allen's Regt. at the capture of Fort Ticonderoga on May 10th, 1777. He was at the Battle of Long Island on August 17th, 1776, where he was taken prisoner. Confined on the "Jersey," he made his escape using a log of wood upon which he had slept. The log is still preserved by the family in Simsbury, Connecticut.

He was a Lieutenant in the Second Company of Wadsworth's Brigade, and was listed on the payroll in the Alarm of Danbury—April 26th, 1777—and later at the Battle of New Haven—July 4th, 1779. He was appointed Captain in the Continental Army.



Joseph Tatnall was a Quaker and, as such, could not take up arms. But he was known for his patriotism and was regarded as one of the leaders of what would become the state of Delaware. He had built a flour mill along the Brandywine, and a house at 1803 Market Street. In 1777, the house was quarters and headquarters for General George Washington, General Anthony Wayne and General Lafayette. The family still possesses the cherry wood table upon which the generals used to write their orders. Tatnall gave Washington large quantities of flour for the subsistence of the famishing army. He was also instrumental in removing the upper stone from the eight flour mills at Brandywine and hiding them from the approaching English.

Fraunces Tavern® Museum Exhibit Fighting for Freedom: Black Patriots and Black Loyalists



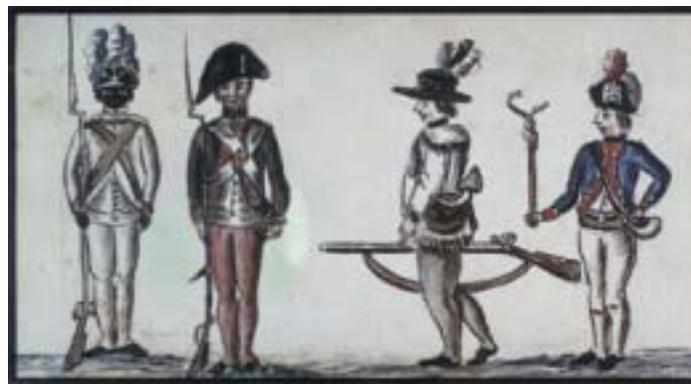
When the American Revolution began, the colonies' 2.5 million residents had an important choice to make—remain loyal to King George III or join the patriot cause and create a new nation. For African-Americans, who made up 20% of the population, the choice was not only about political freedom but personal freedom. An estimated 5,000 blacks fought in the patriot army while thousands of slaves responded to the British promise of freedom and land for fighting on the Loyalist side.

This exhibition is funded in part through the generosity of Elizabeth and Stanley DeForest Scott, and the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency. Fraunces Tavern® Museum is owned and NYSCA operated by Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York, Inc.

There will be an opening Reception Monday, September 26th, 2005 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Fraunces Tavern® Museum, 54 Pearl Street (at Broad) New York, NY 10004.

For more information, call (212) 425-1778, extension 30.

Cover: *General Washington, Touro Synagogue and letter from Moses Seixas*
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